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THE CO-OPERATIVE UNION
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THE FIFTY-FIRST ANNUAL
Co-operative Congress
— 1919 —

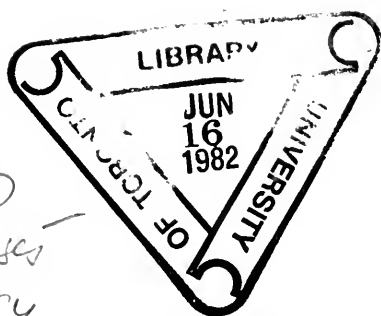
Held at the Market Hall, Carlisle,
9th, 10th, and 11th June, 1919.



Edited by A. Whitehead, General Secretary.



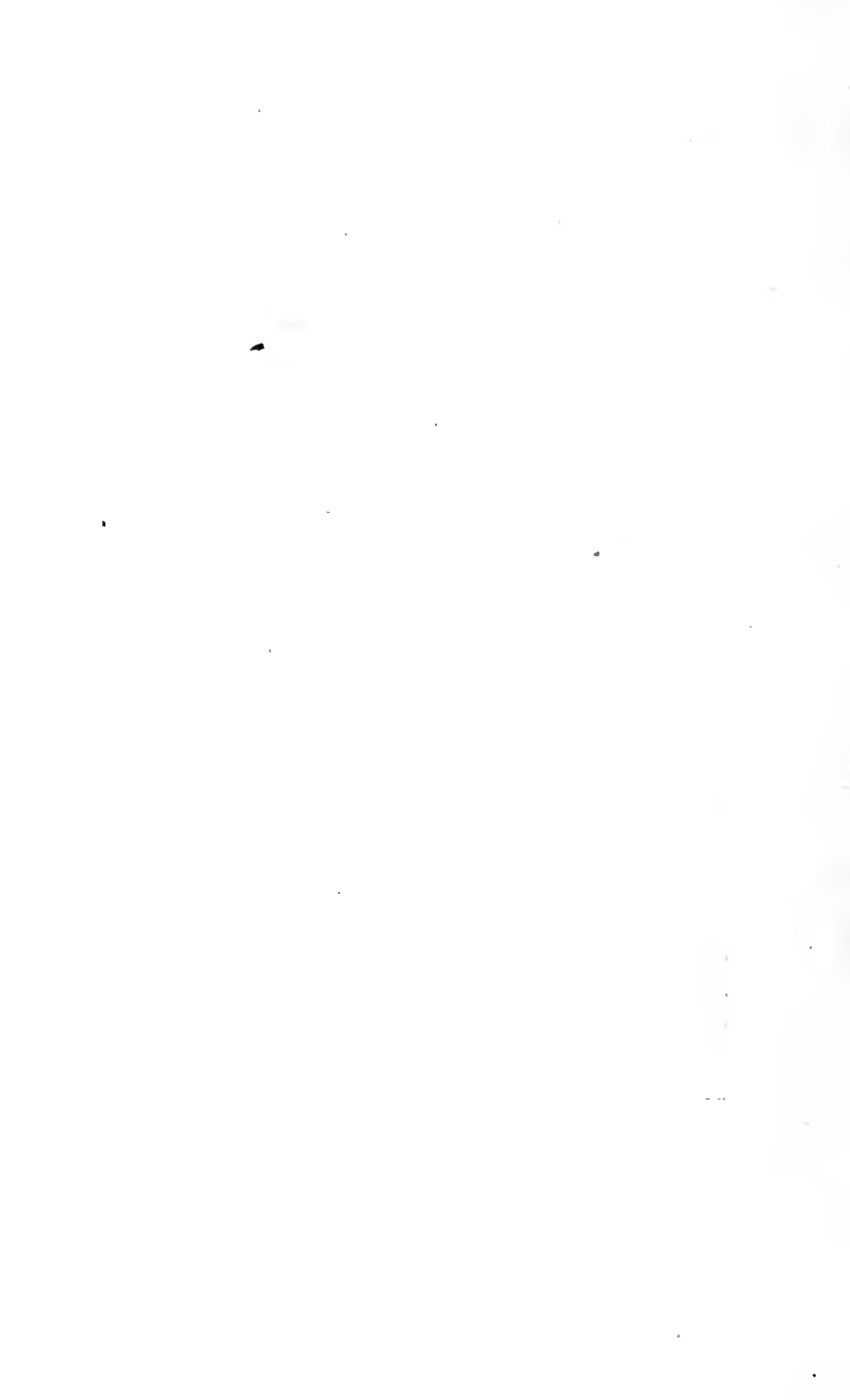
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ALDERMAN F. HAYWARD, J.P.
(President, Carlisle Congress).



❧ INDEX. ❧

I.—SPEAKERS.

NAMES, SOCIETIES, AND PAGES WHERE THE SPEECHES OCCUR.

[N.B.—Numbers in () indicate the number of times the same name appears on the page stated.]

Names.	Societies Represented.	Pages.
Abbott, W.	Walsall	562.
Agnew, P. J.	Central Board (Scottish Sec- tion)	29, 47, 60, 505, 571.
Allan, W. R.	Scottish Co-operative Whole- sale Society	52.
Allen, Sir T. W.	Co-operative Wholesale Society.	67, 503, 515.
Arnold, G. A.	Southwell	502.
Ascantcheef, Mr.	Russian Delegation	106.
Athay, F.	Blaina	506.
Baldcock, H. G.	Gateshead	548.
Banfield, W.	Trades Union Congress Dele- gate	110.
Banks, A. D. D.	Ashford	510.
Barlow, J.	Oswestry	75.
Barry, J.	Plymouth	511, 568.
Bayne, J.	Alloa	501, 565, 568.
Bertrand, MM. Louis ..	Belgian Delegation	98.
Biggar, J. M.	Milngavie	506, 570.
Blair, W. R.	Central Board (North-Western Section)	4, 6, 21, 27 (4), 32, 35, 37 (3), 40, 42, 43 (2), 44, (2), 49, 58, 59, 61, 562, 569.
Blakeborough, S.	Burnley	495, 522, 540, 556, 558, 560.
Brown, C. M.	Coalville	495.
Bruff, F. H.	Birmingham Printers	502.
Cairns, J.	St. Cuthbert's, Edinburgh....	490.
Carding, A. J.	Leek	561.
Carey, J.	Mossley	520.
Carr, Councillor B. ...	Mayor of Carlisle	63, 80, 82.
Chappell, R. R.	Central Board (Western Sec- tion)	5, 6, 12, 25, 45, 54, 59.

Names.	Societies Represented.	Pages.
Charter, W. T.	Central Board (Southern Section)	4, 6, 10 (3), 11, 12, 35, 42 (2), 45 (2), 46, 50, 54, 60 (2), 508, 556, 558, 570.
Clear, M. H.	Central Board (Southern Section)	8, 12.
Cleuett, MM. A.	French Co-operative Wholesale Society	104.
Cload, H. C.	Torquay	572.
Cooper, T.	Hyde	505.
Crossley, L. G.	Blackley	522.
Davidson, J.	Central Board (Northern Section)	19, 52, 521.
Davies, J. P.	Central Board (Western Section)	26.
Davis, J. T.	Central Board (South-Western Section)	27.
Deans, J.	Central Board (Scottish Sectional Secretary)	23.
Dawsbury, Mrs. U. B.	Walsall	76.
Dobson, E. F.	Barry	555.
Dogherty, J. E.	National Union of Teachers ..	112.
Donaldson, R.	Leith	76.
Douse, W. J.	Central Board (Midland Section)	5 (2), 541.
Dudley, W. E.	Co-operative Wholesale Society ..	511, 515, 516, 576.
Edwards, W.	Accrington Provident	491.
Evans, A. J.	Llanelly	521.
Evans, D.	Central Board (Western Section)	8 (2), 12, 58 (2).
Evans, E.	Brightside and Carbrook	495.
Evans, J.	Cardiff	510.
Evans, J.	Hereford	496.
Evans, W.	Burton-on-Trent	564.
Fairbrother, S.	Central Board (North-Western Section)	6, 16.
Feltham, G.	Southampton	76.
Foster, S. R.	Central Board (North-Western Section)	11.
Found, Mrs. M.	Central Board (South-Western Section)	31, 34, 534.
Funnell, J. E.	Roumanian Delegation	542.
Galbraith, S., M P. ..	Central Board (Northern Section)	8, 39.

Names.	Societies Represented.	Pages.
Gallacher, W.	Scottish Co-operative Whole-sale Society	525, 567.
Gasson, Mrs. M. A.	Central Board (Southern Section)	6, 9, 11, 26, 40, 47 48, 54, 59 (2), 60, 573.
Gay, --	Swindon	76.
Gibbins, F. A.	Brighton	74, 75, 540.
Gillingham, F. G.	Bristol and Somerset Conference Association	76, 491, 497, 506, 522, 533.
Gjores, Axel.....	Swedish Delegation.....	107.
Glanfield, H. S.	Devon Conference Association.....	538.
Goodall, W.	Burton-on-Trent	500, 557, 563.
Goodenough, G.	Central Board (North-Western Section)	29, 44, 552, 569.
Graham, Irving, J.P....	Cumberland and Westmorland Conference Association	575.
Greening, E. O.	Central Board (Southern Section Hon. Mem.)	47 (2), 53 (2), 58, 492, 531
Gregory, W.	Central Board (North-Western Section)	6, 7, 13, 25, 32, 35, 40, 53, 502, 548, 561.
Hainsworth, A.	Central Board (Southern Section)	6, 47, 48, 56,
Hall, F., M.A.	(Adviser of Studies).....	70, 77, 500, 540.
Hall, R.	Heckmondwike	513.
Hall, S.	Dewsbury Conference Association	564.
Halstead, R.	Co-op. Productive Federation.....	495.
Hardy, V. M.....	Blaydon-on-Tyne	501, 502.
Hartshorne, F.....	Hinckley	499.
Hayward, Alderman F..	Central Board (North-Western Section)	2 (2), 3, 4 (2), 7 (2), 8, 9, 10, 12 (2), 16, 19, 22, 23, 25, 26, 27, 28 (2) 29, 33, 35 (2), 36, 37 (2), 39 (2), 41 (3), 42, 43, 44 (3), 4, 50, 51, 53 (1), 54, 60 (2), 61, 67, 81, 93 2, 118, 490 (2) 493 (2), 494, 496, 501 508, 511, 513, 516 (3), 517 (4), 519, 522 (3), 525, 526, 529, 534, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 545, 546, 547 (2), 548, 549, 554, 555, 556, 560, 562, 563, 565, 5-8, 569 (3), 571, 572, 574.

Names.	Societies Represented.	Pages.
Hemming, C.	Ten Acres and Strichley	553.
Henderson, T.	Kinuing Park	518.
Henson, T. J.	Co-operative Wholesale Society	51.
Hibberd, R.	Parkstone and Bournemouth.	569
Hill, L. A.	West London	531
Honsey, H.	Worksop.....	496, 500, 557.
Hood, Mrs. E. D....	Women's Co-operative Guild ..	113.
Hope, R. H.	Twerton-on-Avon	526, 530.
Horricks, A.	Central Board (North-Western Section)	58, 60.
Horrocks, T.	Assistant Secretary	51, 58 (2).
Houghton, F.	Central Board (North-Western Section)	40.
Hoyle, E.	Slaithwaite	75.
Jennings, F.	Pendleton	492, 493, 530, 531, 548.
Johnston, J.	Central Board (North-Western Section)	12, 13 (2), 45, 504, 546, 549.
Jones, A. H.	Central Board (Midland Sec- tion)	56, 60, 521.
Kane, W. G.	Central Board (Irish Section)	41.
Kelly, Mrs. H.	Woolwich (Royal Arsenal) ...	504, 511.
Kelly, —.	Liverpool Men's Guild	76.
Kemp, S... ..	Wigston Hosiers	496, 514, 552.
Kerr, A.	Lochgelly	566.
Killon, T.	Co-operative Wholesale Society.	50, 51 (2), 52 (2), 80, 82, 83, 574.
King, J. W.	Co-operative Wholesale Society.	578.
Lewis, A. E.	Failsworth.....	556.
Loney, P.	Central Board (Scottish Sec- tion)	30, 48.
Lucas, J.	Central Board (Scottish Sec- tion)	20, 28, 29, 32, 40 (2), 41, 43 (2), 46, 47, 49, 56.
McCarthy, D.	Leicester	506.
McEwen, G. A.	Stockton-on-Tees	513.
McGowan, D.	Grimshaw Park	563.
McMillan, Miss M.		580.
Maclean, N., M.P.	Central Board (Scottish Sec- tion)	8, 13, 15, 25, 30, 37, 49, 51 (2), 60, 516, 517 (2), 525, 532, 567.

Names.	Societies Represented.	Pages.
Maire, MM. M.	Swiss Delegation	109.
Major, G.	Central Board (North-Western Section)	19, 22, 24, 32, 35, 37 (2), 41, 42, 50, 57, 58, 536.
Marks, J.	Bristol	571.
Marshall, J.	Carlisle	75.
Maton, J.	Edmonton	536.
May, H. J.	Central Board (Southern Sec- tion Hon. Mem.)	14, 27, 68, 507, 518.
Mellor, J.	Blackley	520.
Mellor, M.	New Swindon	522.
Milhill, J. H.	Portsea Island	494.
Millerchip, W.	Central Board (Midland Sec- tion)	3, 4, 7 (3), 14, 25, 33, 40, 43, 49 (2), 53, 54, 56, 537.
Millington, J.	Central Board (Midland Sec- tion)	5 (2), 6, 8, 9, 10 (2), 12, 13, 20, 22, 31, 32, 43, 44, 45, 52, 56, 528, 564.
Mortimer, C W.	Eccles	496.
Moule, S. W.	Stratford	532.
Mundy, E. W.	Bristol Printers	495, 558.
Neil, P. S.	Luton	504.
Newlove, W. T.	Coventry Perseverance	493, 496.
Oualid, MM. M.	French Delegation ..	106.
Palmer, J.	Central Board (Irish Section) ..	5, 35, 40, 45.
Paton, R.	Edinburgh (St. Cuthbert's) ..	556.
Patterson, J.	Central Board (Scottish Sec- tion)	5, 9, 14, 28 (3), 44.
Pearce, R.	Central Board (South-Western Section)	3, 48, 499.
Pembleton, T. Y.	Worcester	491, 537, 541, 571.
Perry, S. F.	Secretary, Co-operative Party ..	24, 31, 43, 48, 60, 510, 523, 526, 527, 533 (3), 534, 568.
Poisson, MM. E.	French Delegation	102.
Pollitt, J.	Labour Adviser	33.
Pope, S. C.	Bristol	529.
Potter, W. C.	Stratford	495.
Purdie, A.	Central Board (Scottish Sec- tion)	18, 24, 29, 37, 40, 44, 58, 60, 572.

Name.	Societies Represented.	Pages.
Rae, W. R.	Central Board (Northern Section)	18, 25, 26, 28, 32, 34, 36, 37, 41, 42, 44, 46, 47, 48, 52, 53, 55, 57, 58, 62, 75 (3), 76, 494, 497, 501 (2), 539, 548 (2): 579.
Ramsay, Rev. G. A.	Central Board (South-Western Section)	3, 5, 13, 17, 19, 20, 26, 45, 55, 498, 578.
Rashdall, Rev. H.	Dean of Carlisle	65, 577.
Redfearn, T.	Central Board (North-Western Section)	6, 41, 44.
Riddle, G.	Central Board (Northern Section)	5, 13, 15, 24, 25, 573, 576.
Robinson, W.	Leadgate	496, 520.
Rogers, W. J.	Northampton	514, 554.
Salmon, W. J.	Central Board (Southern Section)	5, 7, 10, 58, 59.
Sandford, R.	Blackburn (Grimshaw Park) ..	563.
Saxton, C. A. W.	Central Board (Midland Section)	8 (2), 44, 554..
Scott, W.	Central Board (Northern Section)	61, 62, 578.
Sharp, R.	Pendleton	522, 542.
Sharples, J.	Blackburn Industrial	495, 514, 559, 565.
Sheard, H.	Borough of Wakefield	557.
Stavenhagen, E.	Finnish Co-operative Wholesale Society	100.
Stefanescue-Preboi, MM.	Roumanian Delegation	542.
Stewart, R.	Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society	51 (2).
Stewart, W. F.	Leith Provident	513 (2).
Stoddart, A.	Central Board (Northern Section)	3, 11, 13, 14.
Sugar, A.	Blackley	495.
Suter, Dr.	Swiss Delegation	109.
Tapping, A. J.	Derby	497.
Thomas, MM. A.	French Delegation	102.
Thomas, D. W.	Barry	555.
Varley, H.	Chesterfield	491.
Warren, W. G.	Grays	502.

Name.	Societies Represented.	Pages.
Waterson, A. E., M.P.	Kettering Industrial	521, 535, 578,
Watkins, W. H.	Central Board (South-Western Section)	22, 26, 28, 29, 36, 37 (2), 43, 47, 49, 52, 519 (2), 522, 573.
Way, T.	Central Board (North-Western Section)	9, 19, 59.
Weir, A. B.	Scottish Co-operative Whole- sale Society	517.
Whitehead, A.	General Secretary	2, 6, 7, 20, 23, 25, 26 (3), 27 (2), 36 (3), 37 (2), 39, 40 (2), 41, 42 (2), 45, 47, 50, 55.
Whiteley, E.	Manchester and Salford	492, 504, 536.
Wilkinson, G. J.	Compstall	561.
Williams, A., M.P.	Industrial Co-op. Alliance	112, 524.
Williams, B.	Central Board (Southern Sec- tion)	11, 50.
Williams, D.	Central Board (Western Sec- tion)	26 (3).
Wilson, G.	Central Board (Scottish Sec- tion)	43, 44, 46, 49, 55.
Worley, J. J.	Leicester	493, 563.
Young, T. M.	Eccles	494.

II.—SUBJECTS.

ACCOUNTS—

1. Subscriptions from Societies, pp. 763-773.

Ireland, p. 763 ; Midland Section, pp. 763-764 ; Northern Section, pp. 764-765 ; North-Western Section, pp. 765-768 ; Scottish Section, pp. 768-770 ; Southern Section, pp. 770-771 ; South-Western Section, pp. 771-772 ; Western Section, p. 772.

2. Summary of Receipts and Expenditure—

Receipts, p. 774.

Summary of Receipts, p. 798.

Expenditure—

United Board, pp. 775-777.

Committee on Education, pp. 778-779.

Joint Propaganda Committee, pp. 780-781.

Joint Parliamentary Committee, pp. 780-781.

National Representation Committee, pp. 780-781.

Joint Committee for Political Schools, p. 781.

Sections—Ireland, p. 783; Midland, p. 785; Northern, p. 787; North-Western, p. 789; Scottish, p. 791; Southern, p. 793; South-Western, p. 795; Western, p. 797.

Summary of Expenditure, pp. 799-800.

3. Banking Account, p. 801.
4. Balance Sheet, p. 802.
5. Holyoake Memorial, p. 803.
6. Hughes Scholarship Fund, p. 804.
7. Neale Scholarship Fund, p. 805.
8. Summary of Receipts and Expenditure of Liverpool Congress, pp. 806-807.
9. National Representation Committee—Political Fund, pp. 808-809.
10. Subscriptions to National Representation Fund, pp. 810-814.

AUDITOR (Co-operative Union)—Appointment of, p. 571. Resolution, p. 600.

CENTRAL BOARD OF THE CO-OPERATIVE UNION—

Luncheon, pp. 61-69.

Speakers—Sir T. W. Allen, Councillor Bertram Carr (Mayor of Carlisle), Alderman F. Hayward, Mr. H. J. May, Mr. W. R. Rae, Rev. H. Rashdall (Dean of Carlisle), Mr. W. Scott.

Special Meeting, April 11th and 12th, 1919, pp. 1-37. Resolutions, pp. 588-590.

Subjects Discussed and Speakers—

1. The late Mr. George Bisset—F. Hayward.
2. Agricultural Organisation Society, Relations with—W. Millerehip, R. Pearce, Rev. G. A. Ramsay, A. Stoddart, A. Whitehead.
3. National Co-operative War Memorial—R. Blair, R. R. Chappell, W. T. Charter, W. J. Douse, S. Fairbrother, Mrs. M. A. Gasson, W. Gregory, A. Hainsworth, F. Hayward, W. Millerehip, J. Millington, J. Palmer, J. Patterson, Rev. G. A. Ramsay, T. Redfearn, G. Riddle, W. J. Salmon.
4. Co-operative Union Employees' Thrift Fund—W. Gregory, F. Hayward, W. Millerehip, A. Whitehead.
5. Management Committees, Eligibility of Employees—F. Hayward.
6. Candidates for Parliament, Eligibility of Staff as—M. H. Clear, F. Hayward, J. Millington, W. J. Salmon, A. Whitehead.
7. Co-operative Employment, Conditions of—D. Evans, Mrs. M. A. Gasson, S. Galbraith, M.P., N. Maclean, M.P., J. Millington, J. Patterson, C. A. W. Saxton, T. Way.
8. United Board Meetings—W. T. Charter, S. Fairbrother, S. R. Forster, F. Hayward, J. Millington, W. J. Salmon, A. Stoddart, B. Williams.
9. Sectional Secretaries' Salaries—R. R. Chappell, W. T. Charter, M. H. Clear, D. Evans, Mrs. M. A. Gasson, F. Hayward, J. Millington.

10. Land Nationalisation—J. Johnston, N. Maclean, M.P., J. Millington, Rev. G. A. Ramsay, G. Riddle, A. Stoddart.
11. Permanent Executive—W. Gregory, J. Johnston.
12. Houses for Workers—J. Johnston, N. Maclean, M.P., H. J. May, W. Millerchip, J. Patterson, G. Riddle, A. Stoddart.
13. Education Department, Extension of—J. Davidson, S. Fairbrother, F. Hayward, J. Lucas, G. Major, J. Millington, W. R. Rae, Rev. G. A. Ramsay, A. Purdie, T. Way.
14. London, Central Offices in—A. Whitehead.
15. Joint Industrial Councils—W. R. Blair, F. Hayward, G. Major, J. Millington, W. H. Watkins.
16. Chairman, Central Board—A. Whitehead.
17. Barrhead Case—R. R. Chappell, J. Deans, W. Gregory, F. Hayward, N. Maclean, M.P., G. Major, W. Millerchip, S. F. Perry, A. Purdie, W. R. Rae, G. Riddle, A. Whitehead.
18. Scottish Central Offices—F. Hayward, A. Whitehead.
19. Report to Congress—Mrs. M. Gasson, W. R. Rae, W. H. Watkins, A. Whitehead.
20. Farming Account—A. Whitehead, D. Williams.
21. Agricultural Organisation Society, Report regarding—J. P. Davies, Rev. G. A. Ramsay, A. Whitehead, D. Williams.
22. Small Savings Banks, Statistics—W. R. Blair, A. Whitehead.
23. Szechwan Society, West China—A. Whitehead.
24. Societies Dissolved—W. R. Blair.
25. Agricultural Organisation Society, Overlapping—J. T. Davis, A. Whitehead.
26. New Organiser—W. R. Blair.
27. Food Control—F. Hayward, J. Lucas, H. J. May, J. Patterson, W. H. Watkins.
28. Scotland and Direct Parliamentary Representation—P. J. Agnew, G. Goodenough, F. Hayward, P. Loney, J. Lucas, N. Maclean, M.P., J. Millington, S. F. Perry, A. Purdie, W. R. Rae, W. H. Watkins.
29. Survey Committee's Report—W. R. Blair, Mrs. M. Found, W. Gregory, F. Hayward, J. Lucas, G. Major, W. Millerchip, J. Millington, J. Palmer, J. Pollitt, W. R. Rae.
30. Labour Department—W. R. Blair, W. Gregory, A. Whitehead.
31. Inter-Allied Conference—F. Hayward.
32. Congress Resolutions—F. Hayward, W. R. Rae, A. Whitehead.
33. Congress, Representation of Co-operative Representation Committee at—W. R. Blair, F. Hayward, N. Maclean, M.P., G. Major, H. J. May, W. R. Rae, A. Purdie, W. H. Watkins, A. Whitehead.
34. Pensions for Co-operative Employees—A. Whitehead.

MEETING HELD 7TH JUNE, 1919, pp. 38-61. Resolutions, pp. 590-592.

Subjects Discussed and Speakers—

1. Knighthood of Sir Thomas Allen—S. Galbraith, M.P., F. Hayward.
2. Appointment of Tellers—F. Hayward.
3. Women's Guild Grants—W. R. Blair, Mrs. M. A. Gasson, W. Gregory, F. Hayward, F. Houghton, W. S. Kane, J. Lucas, G. Major, W. Millerchip, J. Palmer, A. Purdie, W. R. Rae, T. Redfearn, A. Whitehead.
4. Scottish District Council, Men's Guild—A. Whitehead.
5. Central Board Agenda—W. T. Charter, F. Hayward, G. Major, A. Whitehead.
6. Income Tax Inquiry Committee.
7. Night Baking—W. R. Blair, J. Lucas, J. Millington, A. Whitehead, G. Wilson.
8. Co-operative Political Policy—W. R. Blair, F. Hayward, J. Lucas, W. Millerchip, J. Millington, S. F. Perry, T. Redfearn, C. A. W. Saxton, W. H. Watkins.
9. Consolidated Reserve Fund—W. R. Blair, G. Goodenough, F. Hayward, J. Patterson, A. Purdie, W. R. Rae, G. Wilson.
10. Land Nationalisation—J. Johnston, A. Whitehead.
11. Pension Fund for Co-operative Employees—R. R. Chappell, W. T. Charter, J. Lucas, J. Millington, J. Palmer, W. R. Rae, Rev. G. A. Ramsay, G. Wilson.
12. Strikes affecting Co-operative Employees.
13. District Conciliation Boards.
14. Co-operative College—E. O. Greening, F. Hayward, W. R. Rae, W. H. Watkins.
15. Purchasing Power, Education and Religious Teaching—R. J. Agnew, Mrs. M. A. Gasson, A. Hainsworth, F. Hayward, P. Loney, J. Lucas, W. R. Rae.
16. Levy on Capital—W. R. Blair, W. T. Charter, J. Lucas, N. Maclean, M.P., G. Major, W. Millerchip, S. F. Perry, W. H. Watkins, A. Whitehead, B. Williams, G. Wilson.
17. Division of North-Western Section.
18. Co-operative Wholesale Societies and the Survey Report—W. R. Allan, J. Davidson, W. Gregory, F. Hayward, J. T. Henson, T. Horrocks, T. Killon, N. Maclean, M.P., J. Millington, W. R. Rae, R. Stewart, W. H. Watkins.
19. Finances of the Union—F. Hayward.
20. International Co-operative Trading—E. O. Greening, W. Millerchip, W. R. Rae.

21. Survey Committee's Report—W. R. Blair, R. R. Chappell, W. T. Charter, D. Evans, Mrs. M. A. Gasson, E. O. Greening, A. Hainsworth, F. Hayward, A. Horricks, T. Horrocks, A. H. Jones, J. Lucas, G. Major, W. Millerchip, J. Millington, A. Purdie, W. R. Rae, Rev. G. A. Ramsay, W. J. Salmon, A. Whitehead, G. Wilson.
22. Food Control—T. Way, A. Whitehead.
23. Nationalisation of Mines—P. J. Agnew, W. R. Blair, R. R. Chappell, W. T. Charter, Mrs. M. A. Gasson, F. Hayward, N. Maclean, M.P., S. F. Perry, A. Whitehead.
24. Congress Arrangements—W. R. Blair, F. Hayward, A. Horricks, A. H. Jones, A. Purdie, A. Whitehead.

MEETING HELD DURING CONGRESS, 10th June.

Resolutions, pp. 592-593.

NEW CENTRAL BOARD MEMBERS, pp. 114-116.

LUNCHEON, pp. 61-69.

Speakers—Sir T. W. Allen, Councillor B. Carr, F. Hayward, H. J. May, W. R. Rae, Rev. H. Rashdall, W. Scott.

EDUCATIONAL SESSIONS.

Saturday, 7th June, pp. 69-78.

Speakers—J. Barlow, Mrs. U. B. Dewsbury, R. Donaldson, G. Feltham
— . Gay, F. A. Gibbins, F. G. Gillingham, F. Hall, M.A., E. Hoyle,
— . Kelly, J. Marshall, W. R. Rae.

Tuesday, 10th June, pp. 579-587.

Speakers—W. R. Rae, Miss Margaret McMillan.

CONGRESS—

Civic Welcome, pp. 80-83. Speakers—Councillor B. Carr (Mayor of Carlisle)
T. Killon.

President, Introduction of, p. 83. Speaker—T. Killon.

Inaugural Address, pp. 83-98. Speaker—Alderman F. Hayward.

Next Congress, Place of, pp. 571-572. Speakers—H. C. Cload, J. Marks.

Proceedings at—

Preliminary, pp. 38-78.

Regular, pp. 79-574.

Resolutions, pp. 594-600.

Sittings—

First Day : Morning, pp. 79-118 ; Afternoon, pp. 495-507.

Second Day : Morning, pp. 508-526 ; Afternoon, pp. 527-548.

Third Day : Morning, pp. 549-574.

DEPUTATIONS—

Belgium : Speaker—MM. L. Bertrand, p. 98.

Finland : Speaker—Mr. E. Stavenhagen, p. 100.

France: Speakers MM. A. J. Cleuet, p. 104; M. Oualid, p. 102; E Poisson, p. 102; Albert Thomas, p. 102.

International Co-operative Alliance: Speaker—A. Williams, M.P., p. 112.

National Union of Teachers: Speaker—J. E. Dogherty, p. 112.

Roumania: Speakers—J. E. Funnell, Stefanescu-Preboi, 542.

Russia: Speaker—M. Asantcheef, p. 106.

Sweden: Speaker—A. Gjores, p. 107.

Switzerland: Speaker—M. Maire, p. 109.

Trades Union Congress: Speaker—W. Banfield, p. 110.

Women's Co-operative Guild: Speaker—Mrs. Hood, p. 113.

ELECTION OF CENTRAL BOARD, pp. 114-116.

RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED, pp. 117-118.

GREETINGS FROM FOREIGN CO-OPERATORS, pp. 98-110, 542.

INAUGURAL ADDRESS, pp. 83-98.

„ „ Vote of Thanks for, pp. 573-4. Speakers—W. H. Watkins, Mrs. M. A. Gasson, A. Whitehead, F. Hayward.

PRESENTATIONS—

To Councillor B. Carr (Mayor of Carlisle), p. 82.

„ Alderman F. Hayward (President of Congress), p. 574.

„ Mr. T. Killon (Vice-President of Congress), p. 574.

PRODUCTIVE SOCIETIES—Returns of Trade, pp. 611, 623-633, 744-762.

REPORT OF THE CENTRAL BOARD (including Summarised Reports of the Women's Co-operative Guilds). Subjects and Appendices, pp. 119-318.

Introduction, p. 119.

1. Industrial Co-operative Societies in the United Kingdom in 1917, p. 121.

2. General Progress of the Movement, p. 125.

3. Wholesale Societies, p. 126.

4. Distributive Co-operative Societies, p. 132.

5. Co-operative Production, p. 132.

6. Farming by Co-operative Societies, p. 134. Appendix, p. 256.

7. Small Savings or Penny Banks, p. 134.

8. Co-operative Insurance, p. 135.

9. Journals of the Movement, p. 136.

10. New Societies Registered in 1918, p. 137. Appendix, p. 260.

11. Societies Dissolved or Amalgamated in 1918, p. 138. Appendix, p. 283.

12. Societies Affiliated to the Union during 1918, p. 139.

13. Societies which have withdrawn during 1918, p. 139.

14. Summary of Members, p. 139.

15. Central Board, p. 140.

16. United Board, p. 143.

17. Office Committee, p. 144.

18. Committees of the Union, p. 145.

19. Central Education Committee, p. 145. Appendix, p. 288.
20. Statistics and General Publications Committee, p. 156.
21. Joint Propaganda Committee, p. 161.
22. Joint Parliamentary Committee, p. 162.
23. Reconstitution of the Joint Parliamentary Committee, p. 181.
24. National Co-operative Representation Committee, p. 182.
25. Joint Exhibitions Committee, p. 191.
26. Joint Committee of Trade-unionists and Co-operators, p. 191.
27. United Advisory Council of Trade-unionists and Co-operators, p. 196.
28. Co-operative Defence Committee, p. 199.
29. Honorary Members of the Central Board, p. 199.
30. Deceased Members of the Central Board, p. 199.
31. Reports of the Sections, p. 200.
32. Receipts and Expenditure, p. 206.
33. Contributions from Societies, p. 207.
34. Invested Funds, p. 208.
35. Subscriptions to the Union, p. 208.
36. Central Premises, p. 213.
37. National Policy, p. 214.
38. Labour Department, p. 213.
39. War Emergency. Workers' National Committee, p. 222.
40. Organisation of Allotments and Allotment Holders, p. 223.
41. Income Tax Inquiry, p. 224.
42. National Co-operative War Memorial, p. 224.
43. Grants for Political Purposes, p. 225.
44. Blandford Memorial, p. 226.
45. Minnie Pit (Staffs.) Colliery Disaster, p. 226.
46. British Red Cross and Order of St. John, p. 227.
47. Anglo-Russian Hospital Fund, p. 227.
48. Belgian Distress Fund, p. 227.
49. Belgian and French Fund, p. 227.
50. Co-operative Scholarships, p. 228.
51. Foreign Congresses, p. 229.
52. Trades Union Congress, p. 238.
53. National Union of Teachers, p. 239.
54. Women's Co-operative Guilds, p. 240. Appendix, p. 301.
55. International Co-operative Alliance, p. 241. Appendix, p. 316.
56. Hodgson Pratt Memorial Limited, p. 243.
57. General Co-operative Survey, p. 244 (report issued separately).
58. Congress of 1920, p. 244.
59. Deceased Co-operators, p. 245.

RESOLUTIONS SENT IN BY SOCIETIES, pp. 248-251.

PROPOSED ALTERATION OF RULES, pp. 252-253.

DISCUSSION ON THE REPORT, pp. 490-574.

1. Statistics for 1918, p. 490—A. Whitehead.
2. Wholesale Societies, p. 490—F. Hayward.
3. Co-operative Farming, p. 490—J. Cairns, F. G. Gillingham.
4. Co-operative Insurance, p. 491—W. Edwards, J. Y. Pembleton, H. Varley.
5. Societies Dissolved, p. 492—E. Whiteley.
6. New Members, p. 492—E. O. Greening, F. Hayward, F. Jennings, W. T. Newlove, A. Whitehead, J. J. Worley.
7. Central Board, p. 494—F. Hayward, J. H. Milhill, T. M. Young.
8. Central Education Committee, p. 494—S. Blakeborough, C. W. Brown, E. Evans, J. Evans, F. G. Gillingham, R. Halstead, F. Hayward, H. Honsey, S. Kemp, C. W. Mortimer, E. W. Mundy, W. T. Newlove, W. C. Potter, W. R. Rae, W. Robinson, J. Sharples, A. Sugar, A. J. Tapping.
9. Co-operative College, p. 498—W. Goodall, F. Hall, M.A., R. Hartshorne, H. Honsey, R. Pearce, Rev. G. A. Ramsay, B.A.
10. Statistics and General Publications Committee, p. 501—J. Bayne, V. M. Hardy, W. R. Rae.
11. Joint Propaganda Committee, p. 502—G. A. Arnold, F. H. Bruff, W. Gregory, W. G. Warren.
12. Joint Parliamentary Committee, p. 503—P. G. Agnew, Sir T. W. Allen, F. Athay, J. M. Biggar, T. Cooper, F. G. Gillingham, J. Johnston, Mrs. S. Kelly, D. McCarthy, H. J. May, P. S. Neil, E. Whiteley.
13. Food Control and Reconstruction, p. 508—A. D. D. Banks, J. Barry, W. T. Charter, J. Evans, F. Hayward, Mrs. S. Kelly, S. F. Perry.
14. Ministry of Food, p. 511—Sir T. W. Allen, W. E. Dudley, R. Hall, F. Hayward, S. Kemp, N. Maclean, M.P., G. A. McEwen, W. J. Rogers, J. Sharples, W. F. Stewart.
15. Sons of Temperance Greetings, p. 517—F. Hayward.
16. Imperial Preference, p. 517—T. Henderson, H. J. May, A. B. Weir.
17. Reconstruction: Joint Parliamentary Committee, p. 519—F. Hayward, W. H. Watkins.
18. National Co-operative Representation Committee, p. 519—S. Blakeborough, J. Carey, L. G. Crossley, J. Davidson, A. J. Evans, F. G. Gillingham, U. M. Hardy, A. H. Jones, J. Mellor, M. Mellor, W. Robinson, R. Sharp, A. E. Waterson, M.P., W. H. Watkins.
19. Proportional Representation, p. 523—N. Maclean, M.P., W. Gallacher, R. H. Hope, S. F. Perry, A. Williams, M.P.
20. Greetings from Derby Students, p. 525—F. Hayward.
21. Agricultural Co-operation, p. 526—A. Whitehead.

22. Congress Excursion, p 526—F. Hayward.
23. Proposed People's Party, p. 527—F. G. Gillingham, E. O. Greening, F. Hayward, R. H. Hope, F. Jennings, N. Maclean, M.P., J. Millington, S. W. Moule, S. F. Perry, S. C. Pope.
24. Conscription, p. 534—Mrs. M. Found, A. E. Waterson, M.P.
25. Co-operative Party, p. 536—E. Whiteley.
26. Joint Committee of Trade Unionists and Co-operators, p. 536—G. Major, J. Maton.
27. Advisory Council of Trade Unionists and Co-operators, p. 537—W. Millerchip, T. Y. Pembleton.
28. Honorary Members, Central Board, p. 538—F. Hayward.
29. Deceased Members, p. 538.
30. Greetings from Ancient Order of Shepherds, p. 538.
31. South-Western Sectional Report, p. 538—H. S. Glanfield.
32. Subscriptions to the Union, p. 539—S. Blakeborough, F. A. Gibbins, F. Hayward, W. R. Rae.
33. National Policy, p. 540—F. Hall, M.A.
34. Allotment Societies and Allotment Holders, p. 541—F. Hayward, T. Y. Pembleton.
35. National Co-operative War Memorial, p. 541—W. J. Douse, R. Sharp.
36. Co-operation in Devastated Areas, 545—F. Hayward, J. Johnston.
37. International Co-operative Bureau, p. 546—F. Hayward.
38. International Co-operative Trading, p. 547—F. Hayward.
39. General Co-operative Survey, p. 547—H. G. Baldcock, W. Gregory, F. Jennings, W. R. Rae.
40. Resolutions from Societies and Emergency Resolutions, p.p. 549-571.
 - (1) Co-operative Political Programme, p. 549—G. Goodenough, L. A. Hill, J. Johnston, S. Kemp.
 - (2) National Co-operative Representation Committee: Constitution, p. 553—F. Hayward, C. Hemming, W. J. Rogers, C. A. W. Saxton.
 - (3) Consolidated Reserve Fund, p. 554—S. Blakeborough, E. F. Dobson, F. Hayward, D. W. Thomas.
 - (4) Land Nationalisation, p. 556—A. E. Lewis, Russell Paton.
 - (5) Employees' Superannuation Scheme, p. 556—S. Blakeborough, J. Barry, W. T. Charter, W. Goodall, H. Honsey, E. W. Mundy, H. Sheard.
 - (6) Labour Disputes Affecting Co-operative Employees, p. 559—S. Blakeborough, F. Hayward, J. Sharples.
 - (7) District Conciliation Boards, p. 561—W. R. Blair, A. J. Carding, W. Gregory, F. Hayward, G. J. Wilkinson.
 - (8) Co-operative College, p. 562—W. Abbott, J. J. Worley.

- (9) Purchasing Power, Education, and Religious Teaching, p. 563—F. Hayward, D. McGowan, R. Sandford.
- (10) Capital Levy, p. 563—W. Evans, W. Goodall, J. Millington.
- (11) Proposed Yorkshire Section, p. 564—S. Hall, F. Hayward, J. Sharples.
- (12) Co-operative Representation (Scotland), p. 565—J. Bayne, W. Gallacher, F. Hayward, A. Kerr, N. Maclean, M.P., S. F. Perry.
- (13) Coal Supplies, p. 569—W. R. Blair, G. Goodenough.
- (14) Nationalisation of Mines, p. 569—R. Hibberd.
- (15) Agricultural Committee, p. 570—W. T. Charter, T. Y. Pembleton.
- (16) Housing Problem, p. 570—P. J. Agnew, J. M. Biggar.
- 41. Alteration of Rules, p. 571—F. Hayward.
- 42. Appointment of Auditor, p. 571.
- 43. Congress, 1920, p. 571—H. C. Cload, J. Marks.
- 44. Votes of Thanks, p. 572—Mrs. M. Gasson, F. Hayward, T. Killon, A. Purdie, G. Riddle, A. Whitehead, W. H. Watkins.

REPORTS OF THE SECTIONS—

- 1. Irish Section—pp. 319-322.
 - Sectional Board, p. 319.
 - Conference Association, p. 321.
- 2. Midland Section, pp. 323-350.
 - Sectional Board, p. 323.
 - District Associations—Northampton and Earls Barton, p. 328; Kettering and Wellingborough, p. 330; Leicester, p. 332; Coventry, p. 334; Birmingham, p. 336; Stafford, p. 337; Derby, p. 339; Nottingham, p. 341; Lincoln, p. 343; Shropshire and Mid-Wales, p. 344.
- 3. Northern Section, pp. 351-369.
 - Sectional Board, p. 357.
 - District Associations—North Northumberland, p. 360; South Northumberland, p. 361; Cumberland and Westmorland, p. 361; West Durham and South Northumberland, p. 362; East Durham, p. 363; South Durham, p. 364; South Durham and North Riding of Yorkshire, p. 366.
- 4. North-Western Section, pp. 370-405.
 - Sectional Board, p. 370.
 - District Associations—Airedale, p. 379; Bolton, p. 380; Calderdale, p. 382; Cheshire and North Wales, p. 383; Dewsbury, p. 385; East Yorkshire, p. 386; Huddersfield, p. 387; Macclesfield, Crewe and District, p. 389; Manchester, p. 390; North-East Lancashire, p. 393; North Lancashire, p. 394; North Lonsdale, p. 395; Oldham, p. 396; Rochdale, p. 398; Rossendale, p. 399; South Yorkshire, p. 401.

5. Scottish Section, pp. 406-436.

Sectional Board, pp. 406.

District Associations—Ayrshire, p. 413; Border Counties, p. 415; Central, p. 417; East of Scotland, p. 419; Falkirk, p. 421; Fife and Kinross, p. 424; Forfarshire, Perthshire, and Aberdeenshire, p. 426; Glasgow and Suburbs, p. 429; Renfrewshire, p. 432; Stirling, West of Fife, and Clackmannan, p. 436.

6. Southern Section, pp. 437-464.

Sectional Board, pp. 437.

District Associations—Metropolitan, p. 446; Surrey, p. 448; Kent, p. 449; Sussex, p. 451; Hants., p. 452; Wilts. and Dorset, p. 454; Oxford, p. 455; Cambridge, p. 457; Norfolk, p. 458; Essex and Suffolk, p. 460; Beds. and Bucks., p. 461.

7. South-Western Section, pp. 465-478.

Sectional Board, p. 465.

District Associations—Bristol and Somerset, p. 467; Devon, p. 469; Cornwall, p. 473.

8. Western Section, pp. 479-487.

Sectional Board, p. 479.

District Associations—Gloucester and Hereford, p. 481; Monmouth, Brecon, and East Glamorgan, p. 482; West Wales, p. 485; Mid-Glamorgan, p. 487.

REPORTS OF SECTIONAL EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEES' ASSOCIATIONS—

Midland, p. 348; Northern, p. 368; North-Western, p. 403; Southern, p. 463; South-Western, p. 476.

REPORTS OF CHORAL ASSOCIATIONS—

Midland, p. 347.

REPORTS OF CONVALESCENT FUNDS —

Midland, p. 327; Northern, p. 358; North-Western, p. 375; Scottish, p. 411; Southern, p. 445; South-Western, p. 477; Western, p. 481.

SCOTTISH VETERANS' ASSOCIATION, p. 412.

STATISTICS OF SOCIETIES' TRADE, pp. 601-762.

SUNDAY SERVICE, p. 577.—Speaker: Rev. H. Rashdall (Dean of Carlisle).

P.S.A., p. 577.—Speaker: Rev. G. A. Ramsay.

WOMEN'S GUILDS—

I. England and Wales—Summary of Report, pp. 301-311.

II. Scotland—Summary of Report, pp. 311-313.

III. Ireland—pp. 313-315.

List of Delegates and Representatives Present at the Congress.

(1) Representatives from other Bodies, &c.

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE ALLIANCE.—Mr. A. Williams, M.P., and Mr. H. J. May.

TRADES UNION CONGRESS.—Mr. W. Banfield.

NATIONAL UNION OF TEACHERS.—Mr. J. E. Dogherty.

MINISTRY OF LABOUR.—Mr. J. J. Dent.

(2) Representatives from other Countries.

AUSTRALIA.—Mr. T. E. Shonk.

BELGIUM.—Coöperative Union: MM. L. Bertrand, J. Chevrement, Boulanger, and Colleaux.

FINLAND.—C.W.S.: Messrs. V. Fagerstrom, E. Hynninen, E. Stavenhagen, O. Korhonen, and B. Kanto.

FRANCE.—MM. A. Thomas, E. Poisson, A. J. Cleuet, and M. Oualid.

ROUMANIA.—MM. J. E. Funnell and Stefanescu-Preboi.

RUSSIA.—Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Ascancheef, Mr. F. I. Shmeloff, and Dr. Polovtseo.

SWEDEN.—Co-operative Union: Messrs. A. Gjöres and R. Molin.

SWITZERLAND.—Coöperative Union: M. Maire, Prof. H. Duafme, and Dr. A. Suter.

(3) Members of the Central Board, other than those delegated by Societies and District Associations.

IRISH SECTION.—Messrs. W. G. Kane (Belfast) J. Palmer (Portadown), and W. M. Knox (Secretary).

MIDLAND SECTION.—Messrs. G. Bastard (Leicester), J. Butcher (Rugby), W. J. Douse, (Nottingham), G. Harris (Lincoln), A. H. Jones (Shrewsbury), J. Langley (Kettering), W. Millerchip (Walsall), J. Millington (Birmingham), J. G. Shacklock (East Kirkby), W. Warren, (Derby), and C. A. W. Saxton (Secretary).

NORTHERN SECTION.—Messrs. J. C. Aiston (Newcastle-on-Tyne), G. Bedford (Middlesbrough), J. Davison (Bedlington), S. Galbraith M.P. (Durham), W. R. Rae (Sunderland), G. Riddle (Carlisle), W. Scott, (Blaydon), W. Crooks (Hon. Member), and A. Stoddart (Secretary).

NORTH-WESTERN SECTION.—Messrs. W. R. Blair (Liverpool), E. Booth (Wooldale), G. Briggs (Leeds), W. Dewhurst (Colne), S. Fairbrother (Bolton), S. R. Foster (Bingley), G. Goodenough (Castleford), J. Greenwood (Hebden Bridge), W. Gregory (Preston), F. Hayward (Burslem), A. Horricks (Pendleton), F. Houghton (Oldham), J. Johnston (Manchester), G. Major (Rotherham), T. Redfearn (Heckmondwike), W. Swindlehurst (Barrow-in-Furness), J. Thompson (Ashton-under-Lyne), T. Way (Wakefield), B. Woolfenden (Rochdale), and J. Bradshaw (Secretary).

SCOTTISH SECTION.—Messrs. P. J. Agnew (Coatbridge), P. Loney (Stirling), J. Lucas (Shettleston), N. Maclean, M.P. (Glasgow), J. Patterson (Burntisland), A. Purdie (Edinburgh), G. Wilson (Bannockburn), and J. Deans (Secretary).

SOUTHERN SECTION.—Messrs. J. H. Bate (Leyton), W. T. Charter (Cambridge), M. H. Clear (Sheerness), S. Foulger (Ipswich), Mrs. M. A. Gasson (London), Messrs. A. Hainsworth (Woolwich), E. King (Oxford), W. J. Salmon (Colchester); E. O. Greening and H. J. May (Hon. Members); and B. Williams (Secretary).

SOUTH-WESTERN SECTION.—Messrs. W. Brown (Weston-super-Mare), J. T. Davis (Plymouth), Mrs. M. Found (Bristol), Messrs. R. Pearce (Delabole), Rev. G. A. Ramsay (Radstock), and W. H. Watkins (Plymouth).

WESTERN SECTION.—Messrs. W. H. Bryant (Blaenavon), R. R. Chappell (Gloucester), J. P. Davies (Nantyglo), D. Evans (Blackwood), J. L. Powell, (Penarth), D. Williams (Swansea), and E. R. Wood (Hon. Member).

GENERAL SECRETARY.—Mr. A. Whitehead.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY.—Mr. T. Horrocks.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.—Adviser of Studies, Mr. F. Hall, M.A., B.Com.
Secretary, Mr. C. E. Wood.

LABOUR DEPARTMENT.—Labour Adviser, Mr. J. Pollitt.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.—Secretary (Co-operative Party) Mr. S. F. Perry.

PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE OF THE CO-OPERATIVE CONGRESS.—Mr. H. J. May, O.B.E.

A DITOR.—Mr. T. Wood, F.C.A. CASHIER.—Mr. N. H. Cooper.

(4) Delegates from Societies and Conference Associations.

NAME OF SOCIETY.	DELEGATES.
1 Aberdare	Bowen, E. A.
"	Davies, A.
"	Lavender, T. J.
2 Aberdeen Northern.....	Harvey, R.
"	Porter, W.
"	Wilson, G.
3 Abergwynfi	Morris, D.
4 Abersychan and Talywath.....	Ballinger, H.
"	Cotton, H. D.
"	Edwards, G.
5 Accrington and Church.....	Chadwick, S.
"	Dearden, D.
"	Heaton, J.
"	Slater, W.
6 Accrington Provident	Edwards, W.
7 Addlestone	Gray, R. T.
"	Smith, C.
8 Adlington	Birchall, R.
9 Airedale Worsted	Hogarth, T.
10 Alcester	Bicknell, G. J.
"	Devey, B. J. S.
"	Tolman, G. T.
11 Aldershot.....	Bishop, A.
"	Hewish, H. J.
12 Alloa	Bayne, J.
"	Bayne, Mrs. J.
"	Irving, J.
"	Scott, W. W.
"	Scott, Mrs. W. W.
13 Alltwn and Pontardawe	Bodycombe, J.
"	Williams, T. R.
14 Amble	Armstrong, W.
"	Foreman, E.
15 Ammanford.....	Evans, E. J.
16 Annesley Woodhouse.....	Webster, A. W.
17 Annfield Plain	Bates, R.
"	Batey, R. T.
18 Ardrossan	Macknight, A.
"	Bird, J.
19 Ashford	Banks, A. D. D.
"	Harrod, J. J.
20 Ashington Equitable	Gray, J.
21 Ashington Industrial	Bell, R.
"	Brotherton, Mrs. I.
"	Magin, J.
"	Minoughan, J.
"	Smart, S.
"	Youngs, W.
22 Ashton-under Lyne.....	Brooke, J.
"	Rushton, J.
"	Wood, W.
23 Aspatria Industrial	Allan, J.
"	Nelson, J.
"	Robson, P.
24 Avonbank	Fleming, A. R.
"	Muir, G.
25 Aylesbury.....	Collier, T. W.
"	Collier, Mrs. T. W.
26 Bacup	Howorth, W. H.
"	Mills, J. T.
27 Bainsford and Grahamston Baking	Jamieson, J.
28 Bamber Bridge	Brown, W. H.
29 Banbury	Cooke, H. J.

NAME OF SOCIETY.	DELEGATES.
30 Bannockburn	McGinn, J.
31 Barkisland	Hoyle, Mrs. S.
32 Barnsley	Elliot, J.
"	Garnett, H.
"	Jarvis, J.
"	Jones, S.
"	Martin, W.
33 Barrhead	Whitham, C. E.
"	Docherty, J.
"	Gilchrist, R. H.
"	Reid, W.
34 Barrow-in-Furness	Bell, Mrs. A. L.
"	Evans, F. W.
"	Gibbins, J. A.
"	Hillier, H.
"	Parkinson, Mrs. A.
35 Barry and District	Tomlinson, G. H.
"	Dobson, E. G.
36 Barwell	Thomas, E. W.
"	Geary, G.
"	Grewcock, B.
37 Bathgate	Smith, R.
38 Batley	Stevenson, R. L.
"	Arundell, A.
"	Childe, W. H.
"	Clayton, F.
"	Clayton, Mrs. F.
"	Waterworth, J.
39 Bedlington	Dunn, R.
"	Johnson, J.
40 Belfast	Bankhead, S.
"	Graham, D.
"	Hewitt, R.
"	Noble, Mrs. E.
"	Porter, J.
41 Bingley	Thompson, D.
"	Bancroft, P.
"	Hull, J.
"	Lawson, T.
42 Birkenhead	Wildman, J. W.
"	Lewis, W. G.
"	McNaught, A. J.
"	Perry, S. F.
"	Pickup, A.
"	Reece, F.
43 Birkenshaw	Russell, C. H.
"	Clough, E.
44 Birmingham	Lee, H.
"	Cornforth, F.
"	Diddams, G.
"	Jowett, W.
"	Lakins, Mrs. F. S.
"	Lewis, Miss E.
45 " Printers	Spires, F.
46 Birstall	Bruff, F. H.
"	Boocock, H. J.
47 Birtley and District	Kershaw, W.
"	Hogg, J.
"	Knox, F.
"	Knox, Mrs. F.
"	Mellon, T.
48 Bishop Auckland	Oates, W.
"	Blenkin, T.
"	Peacock, J.
"	Pearce, D.
"	Readshaw, T.
49 Blackburn—Daisyfield	Townly, J.
50 " Grimshaw Park	Walton, B.
"	McGowan, D.
"	Sandford, R.

NAME OF SOCIETY.	DELEGATES.
51 Blackburn Industrial	Calvert, J.
" "	Sharples, J.
" "	Sharples, Mrs. J.
52 Blackley	Crossley, L. G.
"	Mellor, J.
"	Royle, J.
"	Stratton, J.
"	Sugar, A.
53 Blackpool	Fielding, A.
"	Irving, W.
54 Blaenavon	Davies, G.
"	Griffiths, G. H.
"	Watts, S.
55 Blaina	Athay, F.
"	Bann, J.
"	Jones, W. Lloyd
"	Lloyd, J. D.
"	Lloyd, Mrs. J. D.
"	Turner, G.
56 Blantyre	Gardiner, Mrs. J.
"	Hughes, A.
"	Russell, A.
57 Blaydon-on-Tyne	Allison, A. E.
"	Cairns, T.
"	Crooks, W.
"	Hardy, V. M.
"	Nield, A.
58 Boldon Industrial	Parker, R.
" "	Bottoms, J.
" "	Clark, G. W.
59 Bolton	Rodgers, J.
"	Bentley, W.
"	Frangleton, W.
"	Pilkingt'n, H.
"	Pollitt, A.
"	Shields, A.
"	Vernon, W.
60 Boston	Brown, J. T.
"	Wander, Mrs. G.
61 Bradford (City of)	Bearder, E.
" "	Clayton, Mrs. J.
" "	Denman, F.
" "	Fearnley, Mrs. E.
" "	Morton, F.
" "	Widdison, E.
62 Brandon and Byshottles	Allan, W.
" "	Oley, R.
63 Brechin United	O'Neil, A.
64 Brierfield	Sutcliffe, F.
65 Brighouse	Aspinall, A.
"	Eastwood, H.
"	Eastwood, Mrs. H.
"	Holroyd, F.
"	Ibbetson, C. H.
"	Morris, J.
66 Brighton Equitable	Briault, H. G.
" "	Elmes, Mrs. A. M
" "	Gibbins, F. A.
" "	Smith, Mrs. E.
" "	Webber, G.
" "	Wilkinson, W. A.
67 Brightside and Carbrook	Couldwell, E.
" "	Dent, J.
" "	Evans, E.
" "	Senior, H.
" "	Simmons, H. T.
" "	Watkins, T. H.
68 Bristol	Gait, G.
"	Marks, J.
"	Pope, S. C.

NAME OF SOCIETY.	DELEGATES.
69 Bristol Printers.....	Mundy, E. W.
70 Brockholes.....	Brook, Mrs. A.
71 Broomhill.....	Lillico, G.
72 Broughton Moor.....	Johnston, A. H.
73 Buckhaven.....	Jackson, C.
".....	Dunlop, M. A.
".....	Goodwillie, A.
74 Bulwell.....	Thomson, R.
".....	Tomlinson, J.
75 Burbage.....	Varley, W.
76 Burnbank.....	Kirby, W. E.
".....	Callaghan, P.
".....	Dick, R.
77 Burnley.....	Hunter, A.
".....	Astbury, Mrs. E.
".....	Birtwistle, J. T.
".....	Blakeborough, S.
".....	Bowker, Mrs.
".....	Isherwood, W.
78 " Self-Help.....	Nicholls, J.
79 Burntisland.....	Wood, T.
80 Burslem.....	Johnston, D.
".....	Ancock, W.
".....	Brooks, G. W.
".....	Hunt, S.
".....	Page, G.
".....	Page, Mrs. G.
81 Burton-on-Trent.....	Somerville, A.
".....	Bamford, A.
".....	Bamford, Mrs. A.
".....	Evans, W.
".....	Evans, Mrs. W.
".....	Goodall, W.
82 Bury.....	Goodall, Mrs. W.
".....	Darlington, Mrs. J.
".....	Collins, F.
".....	Taylor, R.
83 Busby.....	Taylor, Mrs. R.
84 Buttershaw.....	Todd, Mrs. A.
85 Butt Lane.....	Kellett, J. H.
".....	Riley, F.
".....	Swingewood, W.
86 Caerau and Maesteg.....	Evans, D.
87 Caincross and Ebley.....	Smith, E.
".....	Teakle, W.
88 Cambridge.....	Horwood, W.
".....	Quincey, J.
89 Camelon.....	Drummond, A.
90 Cannock.....	Boden, W.
".....	Bird, A. L.
".....	Dewsbury, C. W.
".....	Hampton, J.
".....	Lewis, J. H.
91 Cardiff.....	Evans, I.
92 Carlisle.....	Coulthard, J. T.
".....	Fyte, Mrs. A. D.
".....	Marshall, J.
".....	Nixon, T.
".....	Percival, J.
".....	Reeves, A.
93 Carnforth.....	Baty, C.
".....	Chapman, E.
".....	Chapman, R. G.
94 Carstairs Junction.....	Macnamara, J. S.
95 Castleford Industrial.....	Griffin, T.
".....	Kilburn, J. W.
96 Cefn and District.....	Fawcett, C. W.
97 Chatham.....	Springett, J.

NAME OF SOCIETY.	DELEGATES.
97 Chatham	Taylor, J.
98 Chepstow	Goat, G.
99 Chester	Gandy, H.
100 "	Newman, G. W.
100 Chesterfield	Galer, G. H.
101 "	Varley, H.
101 Chester-le-Street	Burns, R.
"	Gooch, I.
102 Chorley	Glendenning, J.
"	Hewins, H.
"	Sharples, J. T.
103 Cinderhill	Swarbrick, S.
"	Jones, T.
104 Clayton-le-Moors	Page, H.
105 Cleator Moor	Craven, Mrs. A. E.
"	Threlfall, J.
"	Cannon, T.
"	Greener, H.
106 Cleckheaton	Redmond, J.
"	Sewell, J.
107 Clon	Bennett, H.
"	Hemingway, W.
108 Clydebank	Moorby, W. G.
"	Moorby, Mrs. W. G.
"	Burton, H.
"	Chambers, J.
109 Coalville	Kerr, R.
"	Waterhouse, J.
"	Brooks, T.
"	Brown, C. W.
"	Gawthorne, P.
"	Marriot, T.
110 Coatbridge	Marston, C. E.
"	Beveridge, T.
"	Haddon, A.
"	Murdoch, J.
111 Codnor Park and Ironville	Walker, T.
112 Colchester and East Essex	Stephenson, A.
"	Howe, C.
"	Humm, A.
"	Osborn, J. B.
113 Colne and District	Sergeant, R.
"	Barritt, D. A.
"	Duerden, H.
114 Compstall	Shoesmith, S.
"	Chadwick, F.
"	Hall, R.
115 Congleton	Wilkinson, G. J.
"	Cotterill, R.
"	Davies, H.
"	Foreman, J.
"	Gregory, G.
116 Cononley	Redfern, H.
117 Consett	Holmes, Mrs. M.
"	Jeffery, T. J.
"	Saunders, E.
"	Sherwood, J. R. W.
118 Co-operative Insurance (Manchester)	Stoddart, J. W.
"	Odgers, J.
119 Co operative Laundries (Newcastle)	Williams, F. A.
120 Co-operative Newspaper (Manchester)	Tetlow, R.
"	Gregory, W.
"	Hewitt, A.
"	Lawson, J. W.
121 Co-operative Printing	Rankine, J.
"	Bell, R.
"	Hodgson, H.
"	Pringle, J.
122 Co-operative Productive Federation	Halstead, R.
123 Co-operative Secretaries' Association	Briggs, G.

NAME OF SOCIETY.	DELEGATES.
121 Co-operative Sundries Manufacturing (Droylsden).....	Guy, J.
125 Co-operative Wholesale.....	Adams, T.
" ".....	Allen, Sir T. W.
" ".....	Brodrick, T.
" ".....	Coley, P.
" ".....	Clayton, W.
" ".....	Dudley, W. E.
" ".....	Graham, E. J.
" ".....	Henson, T. J.
" ".....	Killon, T.
" ".....	Moorhouse, T. E.
126 Cornforth and Coxhoe.....	Harrison, G.
" ".....	Robson, T.
127 Coventry Perseverance.....	Clay, J.
" ".....	Harris, T. J.
" ".....	Newlove, W. T.
" ".....	Poole, S. G.
" ".....	Proctor, Mrs. E.
" ".....	Wood, W. E.
128 Cowdenbeath.....	Kirk, G.
" ".....	Syme, R.
129 Cowlairs.....	Campbell, J.
" ".....	Dickson, J.
" ".....	Duffus, J.
130 Cramlington.....	Kirkpatrick, J.
" ".....	Simpson, G.
" ".....	Swan, W.
" ".....	Wood, A.
131 Crawley and Ifield.....	Webber, G.
132 Crewe.....	Chapman, T.
" ".....	Chapman, Mrs. T.
" ".....	Cheshire, R.
" ".....	Derbyshire, E.
" ".....	Littlewood, D.
" ".....	Smith, J.
133 Crofthead.....	Aitkin, R.
" ".....	Reid, J.
134 Crompton.....	Metcalf, R.
" ".....	Wild, J.
135 " Boot and Shoe.....	Cox, W. A.
136 Crook.....	Jackson, W.
" ".....	Lloyd, E.
137 Crosshills.....	Greenwood, Mrs. R.
138 Croxley.....	Irwin, E.
139 Cwmbach.....	Edwards, J.
" ".....	Jones, E.
" ".....	Jones, D. J. H.
" ".....	Lloyd, T.
" ".....	Watkins, H.
140 Dalton-in-Furness.....	Barrow, J.
" ".....	Butcher, J. K.
" ".....	Lewney, W.
141 Dalziel.....	Liddell, J.
" ".....	Liddell, Mrs. J.
" ".....	Lockhart, D.
" ".....	McKean, W.
" ".....	Muir, Mrs. J.
142 Darlington.....	Bailey, F. W.
" ".....	Dodd, J. G.
" ".....	Ferguson, G. H.
" ".....	Fletcher, M.
" ".....	Miller, Mrs. C.
" ".....	Stevenson, D.
143 Dartford.....	Savage, —
" ".....	Turnbull, W. T.
144 Darwen Industrial.....	Halliwell, J.
" ".....	Higham, A.
" ".....	Marsden, E.

NAME OF SOCIETY.	DELEGATES.
144 Darwen Industrial	Thompson, Mrs. S. J.
145 Daventry	Westwell, Mrs. A. A.
146 Denholme	Tebbutt, E.
147 Derby	Harrison, M.
"	Ball, T. S.
"	Cook, Mrs. C. J.
"	Faulkner, A. E.
"	Hudson, H.
"	Tapping, A. J.
"	Warden, Mrs. J.
148 Derwent Flour Mill	Maughan, J.
149 Desboro'	Coe, A.
"	Panter, A.
150 Dewsbury Pioneers	Crossley, J.
"	Dove, A.
"	Lea'her, Mrs.
"	Senior, A. C.
"	Turner, B.
"	Turner, Mrs. B.
151 Dewsbury Co-operative Laun.	Heald, C.
152 Doncaster	Day, J. A.
"	Richardson, F. A.
"	Rollings, W.
"	Walker, F.
"	Wilton, F. H.
153 Dove Holes	Barker, J.
154 Drighlington	de-Rome, J.
"	Rushforth, A.
155 Droylsden	Ecob, T.
"	Pogson, D.
"	Stopford, J.
156 Dudley	Baker, A.
"	Wood, G. E.
157 Dumbarton Equitable	Bennett, H. H.
"	Hutchinson, W. A.
158 Dumfries and Maxwelltown	Aitken, J.
"	Cook, D.
"	Todd, W.
159 Dunfermline	Allan, P.
"	Beck, Mrs. E.
"	McLean, Mrs. M.
"	Mitchell, P.
160 Dysart	Cook, J.
"	Terris, A.
161 East Cleveland	Page, G.
"	Potter, E.
"	Potter, Mrs. E.
"	Turnbull, J.
162 Ebbw Vale	Evans, J. M.
"	Mundee, J. H.
"	Pattimore, W.
163 Eccles Provident	Derbyshire, J.
"	Gibbons, H.
"	Mortimer, G. H.
"	Wallwork, A.
"	Weeden, Mrs. A.
"	Young, T. M.
164 Eccleshill	Priestley, G. H.
165 Eckington	Norman, G. H.
166 Edgworth	Duxbury, P.
167 Edinburgh—St. Cuthbert's	Cairns, J.
"	Goodfellow, Mrs. M.
"	Morton, W. J.
"	Paton, R.
"	Simpson, R.
"	Swan, J.
"	Garnett, W.
168 Egremont, Cumberland	Kelly, P.
"	

NAME OF SOCIETY.	DELEGATES.
169 Ely	Touch, B.
170 Enderby	Biggs, H.
"	King, J.
171 Enfield Highway	Barter, J. H.
"	Hood, Mrs. E. D.
"	Mumford, W. D.
172 Epping	Cox, F.
173 Esh	Cheek, A.
174 Exeter	Guppy, G. S.
"	Hawkins, J. A.
175 Failsworth	Blackwell, I.
"	Lewis, A. E.
176 Farnworth and Kearsley	Fowler, J. E.
"	Hayes, G.
"	Jones, A.
"	Rigg, A.
"	Urmson, S.
177 Felling Industrial	Goodfellow, M. W.
"	Major, T. C.
178 Fleetwood	Greenhalgh, H.
"	Hall, J.
"	Robinson, J.
179 Folkestone	Hardy, A. R.
"	Pilcher, L. E.
180 Gainsborough	Brelsford, Mrs. F. J.
"	Brumpton, F. H.
181 Galashiels United	Davidson, A.
"	Little, Mrs. E.
"	Watson, T.
182 Galston	Dunlop, Mrs. J.
"	Morton, A.
183 Garston	Jackson, W. H.
"	Seed, E.
184 Gateshead	Baldock, H. G.
"	McShane, P.
"	Stephenson, W.
"	Thirlwall, W.
185 Gillingham	Davies, E. V.
"	Gill, J.
"	Martin, W. W.
186 Gillsland Convalescent Home	Robson, R.
187 Glasgow - Drapery and Furni.	Bell, J.
"	Galloway, J.
"	Gardiner, A. S.
"	McKendrick, P.
"	Todd, A.
188 " Eastern	Carson, W.
"	Darling, J.
"	Harrison, W.
"	Orr, A.
189 " Kinning Park	Henderson, T.
"	Howie, D. C.
"	Hunter, Mrs.
"	Robertson, R. H.
"	Wardley, D.
"	Watson, J.
190 " London Road	Simpson, Mrs. J.
191 " Progress	Dewar, J. H.
"	Ogden, H.
192 " St. George	Logan, J.
"	Muir, G.
193 " St. Rollox	Ross, T.
"	Ward, P.
194 " United Baking	Cadiz, M. H.
"	Crichton, Mrs. D.
"	Johnston, J. F.

NAME OF SOCIETY.	DELEGATES.
194 Glasgow—United Baking	MacLachlan, N.
" "	Richardson, H.
" "	Simpson, J.
195 Glenfield	Worley, J. J.
196 Glossop Dale	Harrop, A.
197 Gloucester	Click, J. W.
"	Cole, C. J.
"	Jaques, Mrs. L.
"	Ratcliffe, J.
"	Wiggin, C.
198 Godalming	Taylor, G.
199 Gomersal	Beaumont, B.
"	Schofield, F.
200 Gorebridge	Watters, T.
201 Grange Moor Friendly	Ingham, G.
202 Grantham	Bradshaw, W.
"	Bradshaw, Mrs. W.
"	Henderson, H.
203 Grays	Colyer, O. J.
"	Shield, G. T.
"	Smallcombe, E. T.
"	Warren, W. G.
"	Watts, E. G.
"	Watt, Mrs. E. G.
204 Great Grimsby	Borman, Mrs. M. A.
"	Callicott, W.
"	Gunton, J. W.
"	Herbert, W. H.
"	Saunders, E.
"	Tuxworth, Mrs. F.
205 Great Harwood	Clough, H.
"	Parkinson, W.
206 Great Horton	Greenwood, H.
"	Holdsworth, F.
207 Great Wigston	Kenney, W. H.
"	Kenney, Mrs. W. H.
208 Greenfield	Wrigley, S.
209 Greenhead	Maddison, J. W.
210 Greenock Central	Allen, J.
"	Aitken, M.
"	Hardstaff, Mrs. P.
"	Henderson, R.
"	Lang, M.
"	MacKenzie, G. A.
211 Guildford	Brown, A. C.
"	Shepherd, W. G.
212 Guisborough	Peary, J.
"	Readman, W. H.
213 Guiseley	Crowther, A.
"	Driver, R.
214 Halifax	Dawson, E.
"	Garside, Mrs. M. H.
"	Hindle, W.
"	Holden, J.
"	Hoyle, H.
"	Shaw, J. H.
215 Hamilton Baking	Trainer, J.
216 " Central	Healy, J.
"	Houston, J.
217 " Palace Colliery	Reilly, J.
218 Handsworth Woodhouse	Grayson, B.
"	Keeton, W. H.
"	Platts, G.
219 Harrogate	I'Anson, F.
"	I'Anson, Mrs.
"	Jowitt, F. J.
220 Hartlepool	Hodgson, F.
"	Jacques, Mrs. E. M.

NAME OF SOCIETY.	DELEGATES.
220 Hartlepool	Liddle, T.
"	Poskitt, W.
"	Scott, J.
221 Hasland	Booker, T.
"	Hudson, T. M.
222 Haslemere	Sillick, W. A.
"	Williams, A., M.P.
223 Haslingden	Jackson, I.
"	Joy, A.
"	Warburton, W.
224 Hawick	Gass, G.
"	Gass, Mrs. G.
225 Haydon Bridge	Hare, T.
226 Hebden Bridge Industrial	Crabtree, L.
" " "	Gill, J.
" " "	Webster, A.
227 Heckmondwike	Hall, R.
"	Kershaw, Mrs. M. A.
"	Newsome, G.
"	Oddy, J.
"	Wilson, W. S.
228 Hemel Hempstead	Herbert, Miss E. M.
229 Hereford	Evans, J.
230 Heywood	Birch, S.
"	Birch, Mrs. S.
"	Greenwood, J. T.
"	Greenwood, Mrs. J. T.
"	Nightingale, J.
231 Higher Hurst	Bowker, G.
"	Lees, J. A.
232 Hillhouse	Dyson, S.
"	Udell, A. A.
233 Hinckley	Goadby, A.
"	Hartshorne, F. G.
"	Tanck, W. J.
234 Hindley	Evans, L.
"	Howarth, J.
"	Wright, F.
235 Horbury	Cocker, S. R.
"	Straw, A.
"	Welby, G.
236 Horwich	Helme, W.
"	Tickle, J.
"	Wynn, J. H.
237 Hucknall Torkard	Bancroft, H.
"	Bancroft, Mrs. H.
"	Beswick, R. J.
"	Beswick, Mrs. R. J.
"	Howitt, J. C.
238 Huddersfield	Dawson, R.
"	Dickinson, F.
"	Dyson, F. L.
"	Hinchliffe, Mrs. A. E.
"	Kilner, W.
"	Marshall, Mrs. M. K.
239 Hull	Boyes, W.
"	Hall, T. G.
"	Love, C. F.
240 Hurlford	Simpson, A.
241 Hyde	Cooper, T.
"	Langley, G. B.
"	Shaw, A.
242 Ideal Clothiers (Wellingborough)	Brigstock, G.
" " "	Kyle, G. O.
243 Ilkeston	Cope, H.
"	Hesketh, E. A.
"	Knowles, E. C.
244 Ipswich	Baylis, G. T.

NAME OF SOCIETY.

DELEGATES.

244 Ipswich	Bugg, W. A.
"	Lindley, T.
245 Irish Agricultural Organisation	Pierce, C. W. R.
246 " Agricultural Wholesale	Smith-Gordon, L.
	Gratton-Bellew,
	Sir H.
247 Irvine and Fullarton	Andrew, R.
"	Sterrat, G.
248 Ironbridge and Coalbrookdale	Roberts, W.
249 Jacksdale Baking	Hays, F.
250 Jarrow and Hebburn	Clayton, A.
"	Dodds, R. I.
"	Dodds, Mrs.
"	Graham, —.
"	Scurlock, —.
251 Johnstone	McAlmont, T.
"	Welsh, J.
252 Keighley	Brooke, J. E. N.
"	Butterfield, F. W.
"	Holmes, E.
"	Midgley, F.
"	Nixen, W.
"	Rollisson, R.
253 " Laundries	Butterfield, Mrs F.W
254 Keltv	Mill A.
255 Kendal	Caton, D.
256 Keswick	Honey, G.
257 Kettering Boot and Shoe	Buckby, Miss A.
"	Smith, Mrs. M. J.
258 " Clothing	Richardson, E.
"	Whittlestone, W.
259 " Corset	Goode, W.
260 " Industrial	Dyson, W.
"	Greenhill, C. F.
"	Waterson, A.E., M P.
261 " Union Boot and Shoe	Potter, H. J.
262 Kidderminster	Paton, H.
"	Roberts, J. S.
263 Kilbirnie	Stainer, C.
"	Anderson, Mrs. W.
264 Killamarsh	McIntyre, D.
265 Kilmarnock Equitable	Edwards, H.
"	Millie, J. R.
266 Kilnhurst	Walter, J. R.
"	Brown, S. H.
267 King's Lynn	Russell, A.
"	Hignell, F. H.
"	Pye, W. E.
268 Kilwinning	Stokoe, T. R.
269 Kippax	Wallace, J.
"	Robinson, I.
270 Kirkby-in-Ashfield	Wheatley, F.
"	Bayliss, W.
271 " Manufacturing	Hancock, W. G.
272 Kirkby Stephen	Wells W.
	Armstrong, T.
273 Lancaster	Bowker, W. E.
"	Hargreaves, H.
"	Jackson, J.
"	Jones A.
"	Pye, J.
274 Lane Dyehouse	Hinchcliffe, S.
275 Langholm	Harkness, E.
276 Langley Mill and Aldercar	Birkin, J.

NAME OF SOCIETY.	DELEGATES.
276 Langley Mill and Aldercar	Hemmington, W.
277 Lazonby ..	Longrigg, I.
278 Leadgate ..	Robinson, W.
279 Leeds ..	Dawson, W. H.
" ..	Gration, J. C.
" ..	Smith, H. J.
" ..	Stainer, Mrs. C. P.
" ..	Taffinder, J. E.
" ..	Withie, W.
280 Leek and Moorlands	Astbury, H.
" ..	Carding, J. J.
281 Leicester ..	Harrott, E.
" ..	James, G.
" ..	Lucas, S. A.
" ..	McCarthy, D.
" ..	Taylor, S.
" ..	Wooley, Miss C. A.
282 " Anchor Boot and Shoe	Dunkley, W.
283 " Boot and Shoe ..	Jarvis, Miss E.
" ..	Wale, J.
284 " Carriage Builders ..	Stubbs, E. H.
285 " Small Holders ..	Hubbard, W. G.
286 " Morning Star ..	Williams, J.
287 " Printing ..	Sutton, F.
288 " Self-Help Boot and Shoe ..	Bodicoat, J.
289 Leigh Friendly ..	Clough, W.
" ..	Darlington, M.
" ..	Isherwood, Mrs. E. A.
290 Leith Provident ..	Speakman, C. W.
" ..	Donaldson, R.
291 Leyland and Farington ..	Stewart, W. F.
" ..	Barrow, W. M.
292 Lincoln Equitable ..	Woodley, Geo.
" ..	Bell, H.
" ..	Harris, Mrs. G.
" ..	Hewson, W.
" ..	Knowles, Mrs. K.
" ..	Rutherford, Mrs. E.
" ..	Smalley, G.
293 Lincoln Land and Building ..	Holmes, E.
294 Lisburn ..	Adams, J.
" ..	Barbour, H.
295 Littleborough ..	Fielden, W.
" ..	Haworth, J. A.
296 Liverpool ..	Blanchard, C. W.
" ..	Jones, W. E.
" ..	Kitchen, J. F.
" ..	Lister, H.
" ..	Travis, J.
" ..	Whittle, Mrs. F. E.
297 Llanelly ..	Evans, A. J.
" ..	Owen, T.
298 Lochgelly ..	Kerr, A.
" ..	Simpson, R.
299 Lockhurst Lane ..	Cant, Mrs. J.
300 London Agricultural Organisation ..	Carr, R. H.
301 " Anchor ..	Bauer, E.
" ..	Walker, A. E.
302 " Bookbinders ..	Greening, E. O.
303 " Civil Service Supply ..	Barber, J.
" ..	Bignall, J. E.
" ..	Fleming, J.
304 " Edmonton ..	Digby, W. J.
" ..	Macpherson, J.
" ..	Maton, J.
" ..	Parker, G. H.
" ..	Pracy, Mrs. F. E.
" ..	Wilson, A. E.
305 " Hendon ..	Wise, R. J.
306 " King's Cross Publishing ..	Alcock, G.

NAME OF SOCIETY.	DELEGATES.
307 London—West London.....	Bethell, F.
308 Long Buckby	Hill, L. A.
309 Long Eaton.....	Frisby, J. G.
.....	Butcher, A. E.
.....	Daykin, W.
.....	Hallam, R. K.
.....	Roberts, J.
.....	Sprittles, Mrs. L.
310	Edinborough, T. H.
311 Longridge	Mercer, A.
.....	Woodacre, J.
312 Longwood	Holroyd, S.
313 Luddenden and District	Holden, Mrs. E.
314 Luddendenfoot	Webster, W.
315 Luton	Knight, S. J.
.....	Neil, P. S.
316 Macclesfield	Bradley, S.
.....	Bradley, Mrs. S.
.....	Leah, J. E.
.....	Smith, W.
.....	Smith, Mrs. W.
.....	Talks, F.
317	Leah, Mrs. J. E.
318 Manchester and Salford	Draper, T. M.
.....	Lambert, G. H.
.....	Maxwell, A.
.....	Whiteley, E.
.....	Withington, Mrs W
319	Connor, J. E.
320 Mansfield and Sutton	Archer, H.
.....	Pegg, W. E.
.....	Spencer, S.
.....	Walker, J.
.....	Worsdale, B. R.
321 Market Harboro'	Coe, J.
.....	Coe, Mrs. J.
.....	Wood, C. G.
.....	Wood, Mrs. C. G.
322 Markinch.....	Condle, J.
.....	Croall, E.
323 Marsden Equitable	Bamforth, J.
.....	Lees, H.
324 Maryport.....	Barnes, J.
.....	Calvert, W.
.....	Ferguson, G.
.....	Nixon, J.
.....	Sanderson, T.
.....	Vickers, H.
325 Masbro' Pioneers	Dawson, R. H.
.....	King, J.
.....	Milnes, A. E.
.....	Schofield, J.
.....	Wilkinson, J. W.
326 Middlesbrough	Fairweather, W.
.....	Jeffcock, Mrs. S. A.
.....	Mortimer, H.
.....	Neasham, W.
.....	Pearson, J. A.
.....	Smith, Mrs. E. J.
327 Middleton and Tonge	Artlingstall, H.
.....	Riley, J.
328 Middlestown	Ibbotson, W.
329 Midgley.....	Jones, D.
330 Midland Boot Manufacturers.....	Smith, J. T.
331	Skeels, H.
332 Mid-Rhondda	James, D.
.....	Rowlands, P. H.
333 Millom	Bickerdyke, W. E.

NAME OF SOCIETY.	DELEGATES.
333 Millom	Satterthwaite, W.
334 Milngavie	Biggar, J. M.
335 Mirfield Perseverance	Wilson, C.
336 Morley	Austin, L.
"	Fothergill, D.
"	Kendall, C.
"	Marshall, B.
"	Roberts, H. D.
"	Souden, T.
337 Mossley	Carey, J.
"	Carey, S.
"	Wyatt, J.
338 Musselburgh and Fisherrow	Romanis, A.
"	Semple, S.
339 National Labour Press	Whiteley, Mrs. E.
340 " Managers' Association	McGhie, T.
341 Naworth Collieries	Gregg, J.
342 Neath Abbey and Skewen	Jones, S.
343 Nelson	Ashworth, W.
"	Butterfield, E.
"	Hamilton, G. W.
"	Hargreaves, R.
"	Tempest, J.
"	Wellock, H.
344 Netherfield	Goddard J.
"	King, T.
"	Onn, W.
345 Newark	Smith, A.
346 Newbiggin-by-the-Sea	Dent, W.
"	Patterson, B.
"	Welsh, T.
347 Newbottle	Boll, H.
"	McBurnie, D.
"	Martyn, A.
348 New Brancepeth	Wood, H.
"	Wood, R.
349 Newcastle-on-Tyne	Cartman, D.
"	Cattliff, W.
"	Leckey, R. J.
"	Smith, E. J.
"	Wade, W.
350 Newcastle Household Furnishing	Davisin, J. W.
351 New Cumnock	Scott, J.
352 Newhaven	Tester, H.
353 New Mills	Attenborough, J.
354 New Moston	Gent, Alf.
355 Newport (Mon.)	Brown, H. J.
"	Greening, C.
"	Hurn, T. J.
"	Squire, L. M.
"	Squire, Mrs. L. M.
356 New Swindon	Lowes, J.
"	Marshman, G. A. H.
"	Mellor, M.
357 Newton Abbot	Tucker, J.
358 New Tredegar	Gold, R.
"	Paul, J.
359 Newmains and Cambusnethan	O'Rourke, F.
"	Wilson, S.
360 Northampton	Ashwell, J. W.
"	Cox, A. W.
"	Hornsey, A. H.
"	Rogers, W. J.
"	Wootton, H.
361 Northamptonshire Productive	Green, F.
362 North Shields	Chambers, C. B.
"	Foster, W. J.
"	Morton, Ed. F.

NAME OF SOCIETY.

DELEGATES.

362 North Shields	Percy, W.
363 North-Western Educational Association	Hill, Jas. C.
364 Norwich	Barnes, H. J.
"	Foyster, J.
365 Nottingham	Bowles, H. E.
"	Halls, W.
"	Hemm, J.
"	Kent, G.
"	Marriott, A. T.
366 Nuneaton	Bent, Jas.
"	Martin, H.
"	Sharrod, G.
"	Walker, H.
367 Oldham Equitable	Gale, B.
"	Hoyle, H.
368 " Industrial	Barne't, H. F.
"	Mayall, C.
"	Spencer, A.
"	Woodward, T.
"	Woodward, Mrs. T.
369 Ossett	Godley, A.
"	Hall, E.
"	Lucas, G.
"	Speight, R.
370 Oswestry	Barlow, J.
371 Oxford	Embury, J. W.
"	Ramsey, T.
372 Padiham	Wood, W.
373 Paignton	Hirst, T. H.
"	Johns, A.
374 Paisley Equitable	Erskin, J.
375 " Manufacturing	Forbes, A.
"	Murray, D. J.
376 " Provident	Hutchinson, J.
"	Nicholson, W.
377 " Underwood Coal	Neilson, J.
378 Park Lane	Webster, T.
"	White, W. J.
379 Parkstone and Bournemouth	Hibberd, R.
380 Pathhead and Sinclairtown	Johnston, A.
"	Lennox, J.
"	Patterson, R.
"	Patterson, Mrs. R.
381 Pecket Well	Leary, A. E.
382 Pegswood	Nichol, G. R.
383 Pelton Fell	Usher, S.
384 Penarth	Lewis, T.
"	Selby, J. A.
385 Pendleton	Collinge, F. R.
"	Cunliffe, H.
"	Jennings, F.
"	Sharp, R.
"	Shepherd, H.
"	Shuker, G. A.
386 Penrith	Barker, W. J.
"	Taylor, J.
387 Perth (City of)	Downie, J.
"	Smith, J.
388 " Coal	Bank, D.
389 Peterborough	Bocock, J.
"	Botterill, W.
"	Jutson, Mrs.
"	Laxton, T.
"	Ward, W. T.
390 Pilsley	Mav, J. S.
391 Pioneer Boot Works (Northants)	Gribble, J.

NAME OF SOCIETY.	DELEGATES.
392 Pittington.....	Briggs, R.
".....	Hall, J. W.
393 Platt Bridge.....	Shaw, A. E.
394 Pleasley and Pleasley Hill.....	Maxwell, T.
".....	Parker, J.
395 Plymouth.....	Barry, J.
".....	Carling, W. J.
".....	Chubb, A.
".....	Stitson, E. G.
".....	Williams, Mrs. L. G.
".....	Wonnacott, A. E.
396 Pocklington.....	Alvin, H.
397 Pollokshaws.....	Hendry, D.
".....	Mathieson, J.
398 Pontardulais.....	Thomas, H.
399 Pontefract.....	Briggs, H.
".....	Guest, T.
".....	Price, T.
400 Pontycymmer.....	Bowen, A.
".....	Howells, G. J.
401 Port Glasgow.....	Montgomery, R.
402 Portobello.....	Semple, W.
403 Portsea Island.....	Buxey, H.
".....	Mihell, J. H.
".....	Welch, J. L.
404 Preston.....	Catterall, J.
".....	Carter, W. A.
".....	Lingard, W. A.
".....	Taylor, J. W.
".....	Williamson, J.
405 Prestwich.....	Chadderton, Mrs. S.A.
".....	Gillibrand, F.
".....	Rowland, J.
".....	Walsh, T.
406 Queensbury.....	Brearley, W.
".....	White, N.
".....	White, Mrs. N.
407 Radcliffe and Pilkington.....	Andas, M.
".....	Bridge, J.
".....	Emery, E.
408 Radstock.....	Bryant, J.
".....	Richardson, W. J.
".....	White, A.
409 Ramsgate.....	Norris, Mrs. M. L.
410 Raunds.....	Pentelow, T.
411 Ravensthorpe.....	Hudson, J.
412 Rawdon.....	Denison, A.
".....	Rhodes, T.
413 Reading.....	Chesternan, H.
".....	Jerome, W. H.
".....	Newham, W. M.
414 Redding.....	Newlands, R.
".....	Thomson, A.
415 Renfrew.....	Campbell, J.
".....	Webster, W.
416 Rhodes.....	Heywood, W.
".....	Kay, J.
417 Ripley.....	Blower, J. W.
".....	Brown, I.
".....	Hickman, W.
418 Ripponden.....	Whiteley, W.
419 River and District.....	Knott, W. G.
".....	Knott, Mrs. W. G.
420 Rochdale Pioneers.....	Fielding, H.
".....	Hill, E.
421 Roe Green (Worsley).....	Jackson, S.

NAME OF SOCIETY.

DELEGATES.

422 Rugby	Hartshorne, A. T.
423 Rugeley	Tarbox, H.
424 Runcorn and Widnes	Bush, H. W.
" "	Cropper, J. H.
" "	Parr, J. P.
" "	Rawlinson, J.
425 Rushden	Taylor, J.
" "	Clark, W.
426 Ryhope and Silksworth	Hornsby, J.
" "	Bolt, T.
" "	Brown, R.
" "	Brown, S.
" "	Carter, W.
" "	Henderson, J.
" "	Williams, E.
427 St. Helens	Lewis, J. W.
" "	Parr, W.
" "	Phillips, J.
428 Sandbach	Winterbottom, G. H.
" "	Gibson, W.
429 Scarborough	Turner, H.
" "	Daws, Mrs. A. A.
430 Scottish Co-operator	Wood, A.
431 " Co operative Laundry	Rough, Mrs. A.
432 " C.W.S.	Mackellar, D.
" "	Allan, W. R.
" "	Archbold, W.
" "	Bardner, J.
" "	Campbell, H.
" "	Gallacher, W.
" "	Little, T.
" "	Pearson, J.
" "	Stewart, R.
" "	Stirling, T. B.
" "	Thomson, G.
" "	Weir, A. B.
433 Scunthorpe	Bond, F.
" "	Rimington, F. B.
434 Seaham Harbour	Crozier, J.
" "	Ranson, W.
435 Seaton Delaval	Dodds, T.
" "	Kneebone, R. A.
436 Selby	Anderson, J.
437 Selston	Walker, W.
438 Senghenydd and Aber Valley	Smith, W.
439 Sheerness	Searle, G.
440 " Economical	Ash, C. W.
" "	Ash, Mrs. C. W.
441 Sheffield and Ecclesall	Bingham, N.
" "	Eastwood, W. R.
" "	Harwood, E.
" "	Higginbottom, J. W. H.
" "	Longden, J.
442 Sheepridge	Rose, W.
443 Shettleston	Armitage, A.
" "	Marshall, J.
444 Shrewsbury	Watson, E.
" "	Darlington, C.
445 Siddal	Hilditch, F.
446 Sileby Boot and Shoe	Walters, A.
447 Silsden	Mercy, J. A.
448 Silverdale	Clark, E.
" "	Dale, W.
" "	Mathias, J.
449 Sittingbourne	Sutton, A. E.
" "	Colthup, A.
" "	Foster, H.
450 Skelton-in-Cleveland	Masters, H. J.
451 Skipton	Smith, J.
	Hastings, T.

NAME OF SOCIETY.	DELEGATES.
451 Skipton	Reynolds, W.
452 Slaithwaite	Tindall, F.
453 Soho (Birmingham)	Hirst, H.
" "	Hoyle, E.
" "	Harris, W.
" "	Hawthorne, Miss C. J.
" "	Mitchell, S.
454 Southampton	Reay, J.
" "	Feltham, G.
" "	Feltham, Mrs. G.
455 Southport	Olney, W. R.
" "	Anderson, J. W.
" "	Foster, W. E.
456 South Shields	Houldsworth, R.
" "	Hopper, A.
" "	Kinlen, M. J.
457 South Suburban	Wonders, J.
" "	Bailey, C.
" "	Bridge, H.
" "	Lord, F.
" "	Marlow, H.
458 Southwell	Pamrent, J.
459 Sowerby Bridge	Sunman, Mrs. W. J.
" "	Arnold, G. A.
" "	Binns, A.
" "	Fishwick, A.
" "	Lumb, D.
460 Sperope Boot and Shoe	Wickens, A.
461 Stafford	Donnelly, P. E.
" "	Laidler, J. R. H.
462 Stainland & Holywell Green	Newman, W.
463 Stalybridge	Clegg, M.
" "	Heathcote, G.
464 Stanton Hill	Wood, C.
" "	Cookson, J.
465 St. Ipleford and Sandiacre	Hunt, W.
" "	Poyser, J. W.
466 Station Town	Welch, J. T.
" "	Elliott, W. W.
467 Staveley Town	Emery, W.
" "	Siddall, G.
468 Stirling	Smith, W.
" "	Dow, W.
" "	MacDonald, A.
" "	MacDonald, Mrs. A.
469 Stockport	Macpherson, Wm.
" "	Crossley, G.
" "	Shaw, C. E.
" "	Shaw, Mrs. C. E.
470 Stocksbridge	Spares, H.
" "	Eastwood, A.
" "	Firth, J.
471 Stockton-on-Tees	Sykes, R. J.
" "	Bollands, G. W.
" "	Close, Mrs. J. A.
" "	Drinkell, H.
" "	McEwen, G. A.
472 Stowmarket	Mitchell, A.
473 Stratford (London)	Wade, W.
" "	Finlaw, G.
" "	Hall, D.
" "	Lethaby, T. I.
" "	Moule, S. W.
" "	Pert, C.
474 Stroud	Potter, W. C.
" "	Neale, G.
475 Sunderland	Seymour, F.
" "	Arnold, J.
" "	Coley, Mrs. B.
" "	Coley, Miss M.

NAME OF SOCIETY.	DELEGATES.
475 Sunderland	French, H.
"	Thompson, F.
"	Webster, F. B.
476 Swallow	Fletcher, R.
"	McGregor, A.
477 Swansea	Bowen, E.
"	Evans, A. J.
"	Lowndes, H.
"	Symons, F. J.
478 Swarthmoor and Ulverston	Coward, G.
"	Sandford, P.
479 Taibach and Port Talbot	Brown, J. A.
"	Quayle, J.
480 Tamworth	Genders, T.
"	Hall, H. A.
"	Harding, J. S.
481 Tantobie	Crisp, T.
482 Ten Acres and Stirchley	Hemming, C.
"	Ingram, J.
"	Pruden, J. J.
"	Walker, W. A.
483 Thomson, Wm., and Sons	Langley, F. C.
484 Thornton	Leach, Mrs. F.
485 Throckley and District	Brown, J. H.
"	Weightman, L.
486 Tibshelf	Millward, T.
"	Tomlinson, J. H.
487 Tillicoultry	Jamieson, J. H.
"	Thom, J.
488 Tipton	Hawkins, F. T.
489 Todmorden Industrial	Stansfield, T.
"	Uttley, W.
490 Ton Industrial	Cook, A.
"	Smith, E.
"	Walker, W. J.
491 Torquay	Cload, C. H.
"	Willis, F. E.
492 Tottington	Kay, J.
"	Kay, Mrs. J.
493 Tow Law	Ray, E. G.
"	Richardson, J. G.
494 Tredegar	Morgan, D.
"	Morton, G. H.
"	Whitney, W. J.
495 Tudhoe Colliery	Coulson, T.
"	Joyce, J.
"	Scrace, J.
496 Tunbridge Wells	Richards, H. G.
"	Truckle, H.
497 Tweedside	Renton, J. C.
"	Richardson, J.
"	Smailes, T.
498 Twerton-on-Avon	Barnett, E.
"	Barrett, W.
"	Cowley, C.
"	Grace, H. E.
"	Hooper, C. J.
"	Hope, R. H.
499 Tyldesley	Cheadle, T.
"	Unsworth, R. F.
500 Uddingston	McGraw, W.
"	Mills, W.
501 Uppermill	Broadbent, F.
502 Uppertown	Lawson, Mrs. E.
503 Vale of Leven (Alexandria)	Buchanan, W.
"	McCallum, P.

NAME OF SOCIETY.	DELEGATES.
504 Wakefield (Borough of)	Herald, H.
" "	Sheard, H.
" "	Taylor, A.
505 " Industrial	Laycock, T.
" "	Lyon, C.
" "	Ward, C. A.
506 Walkden	Loxham, J.
" "	Thompson, J. E.
507 Walkerburn	Dodds, G.
508 Walker-on-Tyne	Dawson, G.
" "	McKay, J.
509 Wallsend	Forrest, W.
" "	Kippen, J.
510 Walsall	Abbotts, W.
" "	Adams, A.
" "	Deakin, C.
" "	Dewsbury, Mrs. U. B.
" "	Owen, J.
" "	Pearsall, T.
511 Walsall Locks and Cart Gear	Harrison, W. G.
512 Walsden	Chaffer, T.
513 Warrington	Atkinson, W.
" "	Berry, F.
" "	Clegg, W. E.
" "	Cooke, N.
" "	Cotterill, A.
" "	Edge, J.
514 Waterloo	Lowe, G.
515 Watford	Taylor, A.
" "	Wiggs, A. W.
516 Wednesbury and District New	Morgan, F.
" "	Palmer, J.
517 Wellingborough Midland	Bayes, W.
" "	Wade, A. C.
518 West Calder	Murphy, J.
" "	Philip, G.
" "	Pratt, W.
" "	Rutherford, D.
" "	Smart, W.
" "	Wynne, P.
519 Westhoughton United	Foster, T.
" "	Wallwork, E.
520 Weston-super-Mare	Martin, W. G.
" "	Martin, Mrs. W. G.
521 West Pelton	Dixon, J.
" "	Parker, W.
522 West Stanley	Nixon, I. C.
" "	Tucker, A.
523 West Wylam and Prudhoe	Callender, J.
" "	Orr, J.
" "	Ritson, T.
524 West Yorks. Coal	Brooke, G. H.
525 Whaley Bridge	Goodwin, W.
" "	Yarker, W.
526 Whitefield and Unsworth	Ainsworth, W.
527 Whitfield	Dickinson, J.
528 Wilsden	Moore, E.
529 Wigan	Bottomley, E. J.
" "	Collier, T.
" "	Higham, J.
" "	Rolley, F.
530 Wigston Hosiers	Kemp, S.
531 Wigton	Hodgson, Wm.
532 Willesden and District	Layton, Mrs. E. A.
" "	Hollands, A.
" "	Monson, G. T.
" "	Willow, A.
533 Willington	Appleton, J. W.
534 Willington Quay and Howden	Rochester, A.
" "	Rutherford, W.

NAME OF SOCIETY.

DELEGATES.

534 Willington Quay and Howden.....	Thompson, J.
535 Wilton Sidney Herbert	Prynne, R. R.
536 Windhill	Hyde, E.
"	Hyde, Mrs. E.
"	Lancaster, S.
"	Peate, Mrs. E.
"	Verity, A.
537 Windy Nook	Burrell, J.
"	Hunter, P. W.
538 Winsford	Barker, H. M.
"	Barker, Mrs. H. M.
"	Fryer, W.
"	Fryer, Mrs. W.
539 Wishaw	Docherty, A.
"	Hamilton, J.
"	Harkins, J.
"	Lindsay, A.
540 Woking	Langtree, J.
"	Newbold, C. W.
"	Savage, W. H.
541 Wollaston	Wakelin, I.
542 Wolverhampton	Fulwood, A.
"	Fulwood, Mrs. A.
"	Perry, Mrs. T.
543 Wolverton	Brown, A.
"	Jeffs, E. E.
"	Whalley, J. H.
544 Woolwich—Royal Arsenal	Back, Mrs. S.
"	Farrell, J.
"	Keeble, H.
"	Kelly, Mrs. S.
"	Stafford, B. H.
"	Settatree, I. G.
545 Worcester (New)	Dunkley, J.
"	Pemberton, T. Y.
"	Saxton, Mrs. C. A. W.
546 Workington Beehive	Allen, J. T. W.
"	Edgar, R.
"	Hunt, W.
547 " Industrial	Cassidy, J.
"	Johnstone, J. P.
"	Tweddles, J.
548 Worksop	Clifton, T. W.
"	Holme, G. H.
"	Honsey, H.
"	Honsey, Mrs. H.
"	Scott, H.
549 Ynysybwl	Davies, S.
"	Paget, S.
550 York	Dodds, G. W.
"	Farrar, W. H.
"	Raine, H. E.
"	Richardson, A.

DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS.

Midland Section.

551 Birmingham	Shutt, W. G.
552 Coventry	Roberts, A.
553 Leicester	Hill, W. W.
554 Lincoln	Gosling, J. P.
555 Northampton and Earls Barton.....	James, G. T.
556 Nottingham	Forsyth, E.
557 Shropshire and Mid-Wales	Griffiths, E.
558 Stafford	Harris, W. J.
559 Wellingborough and Kettering.....	Clayson, H.

NAME OF DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.	DELEGATES.
<i>Northern Section.</i>	
560 Cumberland & Westmorland.....	Graham, I.
561 East Durham	Ross, T.
562 South Durham	Strickland, J. W.
563 South Durham and North Riding Yorkshire	Brown, T.
<i>North-Western Section.</i>	
564 Airedale	Whalley, H.
565 Bolton	Barlow, T.
566 Cheshire and North Wales	Fawcett, C. W.
567 Dewsbury	Hall, S.
568 East Yorks.	Bradley, F.
569 Huddersfield	Tinker, H.
570 Manchester	Pogson, D.
571 North-East Lancashire	Snape, J.
572 North Lancashire	Hoggarth, W.
573 Rochdale	Rigby, T.
574 South Yorkshire	Dimberline, J.
<i>Scottish Section.</i>	
575 Ayrshire	Anderson, W.
576 Border Counties	Fisher, G.
577 Central	Muir, A.
578 East of Scotland	Gould, Mrs.
579 Falkirk	Brock, H.
580 Fife and Kinross	Balfour, J.
581 Glasgow and Suburbs	Greig, R.
582 North-Eastern	Stewart, R.
583 Renfrew	Barr, W. C.
584 Stirling, West of Fife, and Clackmannan	Cook, W.
<i>Southern Section.</i>	
585 Beds. and Bucks.	Barton, W. H.
586 Cambridge	Resbury, W.
587 Essex and Suffolk	Davey, F.
588 Kent	Norris, J. G.
589 Oxford	Woodbridge, H.
590 Surrey	Bishop, Mrs. E. F.
591 Wilts. and Dorset	Prynne, R. R.
<i>South-Western Section.</i>	
592 Bristol and Somerset	Gillingham, F. G.
593 Cornwall	Wilkinson, W.
594 Devon	Glanfield, H. S.
<i>Western Section.</i>	
595 Brecon, Monmouth, and East Glamorgan.....	Evans, J. D.
596 Mid-Glamorgan	Jones, D. J.
597 West Wales	Lewis, W. J.

Total number of persons present at Congress, 1,559.



SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CENTRAL BOARD.

Friday and Saturday, 11th and 12th April, 1919.

The Central Board met at Holyoake House, Manchester, on Friday and Saturday, April 11th and 12th, and the following is a report of the proceedings :

Alderman F. Hayward (Chairman of the United Board) presided, supported by Mr. A. Whitehead (General Secretary), and Mr. T. Horrocks (Assistant Secretary).

The following members of the Board were present :—

IRISH SECTION.

Messrs. J. Palmer and R. Fleming (hon. member).

MIDLAND SECTION.

Messrs. J. Butcher, W. J. Douse, G. Harris, A. H. Jones, J. Langley, W. Millerchip, J. Millington, J. G. Shacklock, W. Warren, and C. A. W. Saxton (secretary).

NORTHERN SECTION.

Messrs. J. Davison, S. Galbraith, M.P., G. Riddle, and A. Stoddart (secretary).

NORTH-WESTERN SECTION.

Messrs. W. R. Blair, E. Booth, G. Briggs, W. Dewhurst, S. Fairbrother, S. R. Foster, G. Goodenough, J. Greenwood, W. Gregory, F. Hayward, A. Horricks, F. Houghton, J. Johnston, G. Major, T. Rodfearn, J. Thompson, T. Way, and J. Bradshaw (secretary).

SCOTTISH SECTION.

Messrs. J. Deans, N. McLean, M.P., and J. Patterson.

SOUTHERN SECTION.

Messrs. J. H. Bate, W. T. Charter, M. H. Clear, S. Foulger, A. Hainsworth, E. King, W. J. Salmon, Mrs. Gasson, and B. Williams (secretary); also Mr. H. J. May (hon. member).

SOUTH-WESTERN SECTION.

Mrs. Found, Messrs. R. Pearce, G. A. Ramsay, and W. H. Watkins.

WESTERN SECTION.

Messrs. W. H. Bryant, R. R. Chappell, J. P. Davies, D. Evans, J. L. Powell, and D. Williams.

DEATH OF MR. GEORGE BISSET.

The CHAIRMAN, on opening the meeting, said reference should be made to the loss the Board had sustained by the recent death of Mr. George Bisset. The movement in Scotland and throughout Great Britain had suffered a loss by his death. He suggested that the General Secretary should be asked to convey their deepest sympathy with the relatives of Mr. Bisset, and also with the Scottish Section.

The members of the Board signified their assent to this proposal by rising in their places.

The Chairman said he had received letters from the following members of the Board regretting their inability to be present at that meeting:—Messrs. G. Bastard (Midland Section), W. Swindlehurst (North-Western Section), and W. Brown (South-Western Section).

The minutes of the previous meeting, held on August 23rd and 24th, were then approved, and Messrs. Saxton and Williams were appointed to act as tellers during the meeting.

RELATIONS WITH THE AGRICULTURAL ORGANISATION SOCIETY.

The question of the Union's relations with the Agricultural Organisation Society brought forth some discussion.

The GENERAL SECRETARY stated that, in accordance with the decision at the last meeting, efforts had been made to arrange a meeting between the Agricultural Organisation Society and the Co-operative Union, but up to the present it had not been possible to bring the two bodies together. The Agricultural Organisation Society had also removed from its governors the two representatives of the Co-operative Union, and as a result the United Board decided to withhold further subscriptions. At the last joint meeting between representatives from the Wholesale Society, the Agricultural Organisation Society, the Farmers' Central Trading Board, and the Co-

operative Union, it was decided that statements should be prepared by the Wholesale Society and the Farmers' Central Trading Board showing what each body could supply in the way of agricultural implements, seeds, &c., the meeting, in the meantime, to stand adjourned until January. The Co-operative Wholesale Society prepared a list, but the Farmers' Central Trading Board did not, and in the interval the registration of the latter body as an agricultural society was accomplished. When the Co-operative Union made application for the meeting to be held in January, the Agricultural Organisation Society asked for a postponement as it was re-organising, and up to the present it had not been possible to arrange the meeting.

Mr. G. A. RAMSAY (South-Western Section) stated that the Agricultural Organisation Society was subsidised by State funds, and said it seemed ridiculous that the State should provide funds for an organisation to compete against the co-operative movement. Instead of co-operating this body was competing against the co-operative movement.

Mr. A. STODART (secretary, Northern Section) asked if there was any reason why the Co-operative Union should seek better relations with the Agricultural Organisation Society. He thought they should have more information before they did anything further in the matter. So far as he had been able to judge the Agricultural Organisation Society, although a co-operative society in a sense, was really a sort of trade protection society. The consumer did not enter into the calculations at all. Before they entered into relations they should know some of its methods.

Mr. W. MILLERCHIP (Midland Section) said, having come to the conclusion that it would not be wise to continue co-operation with the Agricultural Organisation Society, the Co-operative Union should send a deputation to the Board of Agriculture, place the whole of the facts before them and get a decision on the matter.

Mr. R. PEARCE (South-Western Section) was inclined to think they should go forward in trying to get some understanding between the Co-operative Union and the Agricultural Organisation Society. One thing he objected to was that societies which had been organised by the Agricultural Organisation Society had been patronised by the Co-operative Wholesale Society. In the difficult times occasioned by the war business had been sought in quarters where at other times, perhaps, true co-operative bodies would not have sought business, but the time was coming when that action would come back on the co-operative movement and retail societies in rural districts would suffer considerably. He considered that no stone should be left unturned until they had brought about a thorough understanding between the co-operative movement and the Agricultural Organisation Society.

The CHAIRMAN said it would be better if they could have cordial relations with the Agricultural Organisation Society, but the facts were so one-sided as to leave them no option in the matter. They had asked for cordial relationship and their request had been ignored. They should fight the battle for

the agricultural movement themselves. He moved that they confirm the action of the United Board in withholding any further subscription.

The proposal was approved.

NATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE WAR MEMORIAL.

The CHAIRMAN reported that the matter of the National Co-operative War Memorial had been before the United Board and had been referred to the Office Committee. The Office Committee had spent some time in discussing it and had had various suggestions under review. It was pointed out that while they could have a Co-operative War Memorial, they would not be able to centralise all the work of the societies in that direction under the auspices of the Union. Pressure for help towards local memorials would be such as societies would be unable to withstand, and consequently all the money societies could give for this purpose would not be given to a Co-operative National Memorial. The propositions that had been considered were (1) a Co-operative College; (2) and extension of the buildings at Holyoake House; and (3) a Co-operative Hostel in Manchester. The Office Committee's recommendation was that they should endeavour to extend the Central Premises of the Union by acquiring the vacant land adjoining and equivalent to that occupied by the existing buildings, and, on that site, erect buildings that would be used partly to relieve the pressure for additional office accommodation; that rooms should be equipped for classes, lecture rooms, and other essentials for a Co-operative College. They would then get a start with their Co-operative College. A memorial of that kind would amply justify an appeal to the movement. The college would thus be begun on an evolutionary method, and they would at the same time relieve the office premises from the congestion which was becoming apparent. This memorial would cost anything up to £50,000, and he thought that was a reasonable sum to ask the movement to provide. There were 1,200 societies and members would see from that how much it would take from each society. The Office Committee recommended the Central Board to take steps in that direction. His view was that the Central Board should approve of the scheme and submit it to Congress.

Mr. W. T. CHARTER (Southern Section) pointed out that they were asking for increased contributions and if they asked for this they might overload their request.

Mr. W. R. BLAIR (North-Western Section): Is the £50,000 based upon any data regarding the cost of the building?

The CHAIRMAN: It is based upon an increase of 100 per cent on the cost of erecting the present building. The idea of the Office Committee is that the subscriptions should be proportioned to each society.

Mr. W. MILLERCHIP (Midland Section) said he would like to see the work of the Union extending; but he was opposed to the expenditure of capital on buildings of that character at the present juncture. The estimate of 100 per cent he believed was inadequate, he thought they would be nearer

the mark if they said that what cost £100 before the war would cost £250 now. There was enough work to be done in the United Kingdom, in the way of repairs to property, to absorb the available labour for the next three years. If they were going to start their Co-operative College it would be better to have it in a building already erected than to erect a building at present. He quite approved of the acquisition of the land; but he did not think Congress would support the proposal to erect a building there for the next four or five years.

Mr. J. PATTERSON (Scottish Section) explained that the offices of the Scottish Section were uninhabitable, and they were proposing to raise money in Scotland to provide a new building there. He feared that if the Union launched that scheme the response from Scotland would not be what it was when Holyoake House was built.

Mr. J. MILLINGTON (Midland Section) suggested that in view of the heavy costs of building they ought to postpone that scheme until they saw how the societies responded to the call for increased subscriptions to the Union's funds.

Mr. G. A. RAMSAY (South-Western Section) thought there would be considerable disappointment in the movement at that recommendation from the Office Committee, especially from those keen on developing the educational side of the movement and who had set their minds upon the establishment of a Co-operative College. This was shelving the whole question. The appeal would go out; Holyoake House would be enlarged; but the Co-operative College would be in the cellars of Holyoake House. Among a large number of co-operators there would be keen disappointment.

Mr. R. R. CHAPPELL (Western Section) thought that as peace would be declared before Congress ("Question!") they ought to appeal at Carlisle for power to proceed with a War Memorial. If they asked for this at Carlisle the societies would fall in with it; but if they left it over for a year it would fall flat.

Mr. W. J. DOUSE (Midland Section) seconded the Office Committee's recommendation.

Mr. J. MILLINGTON moved that it be deferred for six months and this was seconded.

Mr. W. J. SALMON (Southern Section) thought the Board should wait till Congress decided the matter.

Mr. J. PALMER (Irish Section): We are not asking societies to subscribe anything. We are only asking Congress to consider the erection of a memorial and we are suggesting the form it should take. If we do not let it come before Congress we shall have to leave it over till the next Congress.

Mr. W. J. DOUSE: There is a piece of land here that some of us have looked at a good many times. If we can secure that let us secure it.

Mr. G. RIDDELL (Northern Section) did not like the idea of extending these premises in connection with the College. The College should be kept a separate idea.

Mrs. M. A. GASSON (Southern Section) thought it essential that Congress should decide whether we should have a War Memorial.

Mr. W. GREGORY (North-Western Section): If the meeting decides to defer this matter for six months, how can we bring it before Congress? If the amendment moved by Mr. Millington is carried we cannot have any other amendment.

Mr. T. REDFEARN (North-Western Section) said there was nothing to hinder any society from sending in notice of motion to the Congress to take up this matter. Heckmondwike had an idea that £50,000 might be taken from the Co-operative Wholesale Society's Reserve Fund to establish a memorial fund for Co-operative Wholesale Society and other societies' employees. He was convinced we were going through critical times, and he was waiting to see whether we were really going to have peace or not. He thought the best thing would be to adjourn the matter for six months. There was nothing to guide societies as to the amount they should subscribe—whether it should be according to membership or trade or how—and they would want a preamble to that scheme before they could put it to Congress.

Mr. R. R. CHAPPELL at this stage suggested that Mr. Millington should withdraw his amendment, so as to allow the matter to go before Congress.

Mr. J. MILLINGTON signified his willingness to withdraw; but Mr. Charter, who had seconded, objected.

Mr. W. R. BLAIR (North-Western Section) deprecated the bringing in of the idea of the College. It looked as if they were asking for something for which idealists had been asking for some time. He also wanted to know if there was any absolute necessity for increasing the office accommodation. If they were asking for an essential extension of business premises they had a right to appeal direct to the societies for that. He thought the Board should leave the question of the memorial to Congress.

Mr. A. HAINSWORTH (Southern Section) said they would be extending their premises and laying the foundation of the College at the same time. The building would accommodate both.

Mr. S. FAIRBROTHER (North-Western Section), who claimed to be one of the idealists, pointed out that Lord Leverhulme had been distributing prizes to students at Port Sunlight. They appreciated those students there because it got better business done at their works; and if that paid the Port Sunlight people it should pay the co-operative movement to establish a college.

The question was put to the vote; the amendment was lost and it was declared that Congress should be asked to approve of a War Memorial being erected by the co-operative movement.

CO-OPERATIVE UNION EMPLOYEES' THRIFT FUND.

The GENERAL SECRETARY announced that the United Board had approved the formation of a Thrift Fund for the Co-operative Union

employees, and the rules laid it down that the committee of management should consist of seven persons, four from the Union and three from the employees. Four members should be appointed, therefore, from the Central Board.

Mr. W. MILLERCHIP (Midland Section) wished to know if the United Board could legislate or administrate. He was in favour of the fund being established, but he did not think the United Board had any power to decide that a Thrift Fund should be established, which, he presumed, involved expenditure of money by the Union, and new expenditure.

The CHAIRMAN, in reply, said the United Board had had delegated to it by the rules all matters under which the employees should be ruled, and under the rules he thought they were entitled to deal with this question.

Mr. MILLERCHIP said he disagreed. He maintained that the Central Board were the proper authority to agree or not with the principle, and then the United Board should be deputed to carry out the details. He thought that was the democratic method.

Mr. W. GREGORY (North-Western Section) moved "That we affirm the principle," and Mr. MILLERCHIP seconded.

The motion was approved and the following were elected to represent the Central Board on the committee :—Mr. W. Gregory (North-Western Section), Mr. G. Riddle (Northern Section), Mr. J. P. Davies (Western Section), and Mr. F. Hayward (chairman).

ELIGIBILITY OF EMPLOYEES FOR MANAGEMENT COMMITTEES.

The CHAIRMAN said this matter was raised at the last meeting of the United Board, and the Office Committee were instructed to deal with it. The latter adjourned the question, in view of the fact that a sub-committee of the Survey Committee was considering it.

It was decided to adjourn the matter, pending a report by the Survey Committee.

MEMBERS OF STAFF AS CANDIDATES FOR PARLIAMENT.

The GENERAL SECRETARY stated that in June last year the United Board received a letter from a member of the Co-operative Union staff stating that he had been asked to allow his name to go forward as a candidate for Parliament, and asking what his position would be with the Union in the event of his success. The United Board agreed that members of the staff should be allowed to stand as candidates for Parliament, and in the event of success the matter would be further considered.

Mr. W. J. Salmon (Southern Section) suggested that the Office Committee should be asked to draw up conditions under which members of the staff could stand as candidates for Parliament.

Mr. J. MILLINGTON (Midland Section) suggested that the principle should be approved and the question of arranging for the carrying out of an individual's duties should be considered in each case arising.

Mr. M. H. CLEAR (Southern Section) said they should safeguard themselves by making sure that an employee-candidate would represent co-operative principles.

The CHAIRMAN said the best way to deal with the matter was to affirm the principle that any employee was at liberty to seek election to Parliament as a co-operative candidate. Then the question of his position, if elected, was another matter which should be subject to further consideration. The objection to a uniform scheme was that conditions varied so much.

The CHAIRMAN'S suggestion was approved.

CONDITIONS OF CO-OPERATIVE EMPLOYMENT.

Mr. SAXTON (Midland Section) moved the following resolution on behalf of the Midland Section :—

That a circular letter be sent to all societies suggesting that, as a condition of employment, every employee who is eligible shall be a member of a trade union (recognised for affiliation to the Trades Union Congress) covering the whole of his or her respective trade, occupation, or calling, and that the trade union rates of pay and conditions of employment be granted to all co-operative societies' employees.

He said a similar resolution had been approved by the members of the Co-operative Wholesale Society, and if this policy was good for the Co-operative Wholesale Society, it should be good for retail societies. If all employees of societies were members of their respective trade unions, with a central authority behind them, negotiations would be simplified.

Mr. D. EVANS (Western Section): Do you mean to include the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employees?

Mr. SAXTON: No.

Mr. EVANS: I consider it necessary.

Mr. S. GALBRAITH, M.P. (Northern Section), disapproved of the resolution. He had been a co-operator for a good number of years and a trade-unionist for fifty-five years, but he could not subscribe to the sentiments expressed in the resolution. It struck at the root of individuality and individual liberty. He disagreed with the words "as a condition of employment," and asked what they would say to an employer who said, "Except you believe as we believe, you cannot be employed with us"? He thought the resolution was undemocratic and savoured too much of tyranny and that collective organisation made against individual liberty. He hoped that meeting would withhold its assent to the resolution.

Mr. N. McLEAN, M.P. (Scottish Section), was astonished to hear such sentiments uttered by a trade-unionist of fifty-five years' standing. One of the first things an organisation did was to say to the employer, "Unless

you employ only trade-unionists in this shop, we strike the shop." They were an organisation acting collectively, and if it was good policy for one man to be a trade-unionist for 55 years and he had benefitted by it, then they should see that those benefits were not monopolised by one or two. The employees who were not trade-unionists were enjoying the benefits of trade-unionism without subscribing to the upkeep of trade unions.

Mr. J. MILLINGTON (Midland Section) was not so much concerned whether by moral suasion or influence of any kind workers were compelled to become trade-unionists; but he contended that it was better from the co-operative committees' standpoint that their employees should be organised, preferably in their craft unions and recognised by the Trades Union Congress. They needed uniformity throughout the co-operative movement. They desired to deal fairly and uprightly with members of a craft union or any union. At the same time they required the controlling influence of the Trades Union Congress behind the unions so that it could control unions in their propaganda. They did not want any one union, or any set of men forming themselves into a union, to come forward asking for conditions that could not be made applicable to other men in that class of labour. They wanted collective bargaining, with the restraining influence of the Co-operative Congress on one side and the Trades Union Congress on the other.

Mr. J. PATTERSON (Scottish Section) remarked that if it was good for the co-operative movement to take up a standpoint of this kind, then it was equally good that the trade union movement should say that its members should be co-operators. He would recommend or advise employees to become members of a trade union, but to say they would have to leave the employment of the society if they were not would be going too far.

Mrs. M. A. GASSON (Southern Section) said her society had made a condition that employees should join their respective craft union. All new employees were given 14 days in which to join their particular craft union, and were told that if they did not join in that time they could not be employed by the society. Continuing, she said they were at present endeavouring to work with the trade-unionists, and she considered if this resolution was adopted it would be a good lever in their hands. If they could say every employee in the movement was a member of some trade union that was affiliated to the Trades Union Congress, then they had a perfect right to say to the trade-unionists, "Now make your people co-operators." She supported the resolution.

Mr. T. WAY (North-Western Section) said he was in favour of the resolution, but pointed out that if it were passed they would be committing themselves to the scale that was being brought to their notice by the National Union of Co-operative Officials.

At this stage there were cries of "Vote," and the Chairman, therefore, put the resolution to the meeting, and it was adopted.

UNITED BOARD MEETINGS.

Mr. W. T. CHARTER (Southern Section) moved the amended resolution :—

That in order that continuity of policy and concentration of effort may be secured throughout the Co-operative Union, it is agreed that the United Board should arrange for regular monthly meetings to be held, at which the United Board shall be adequately represented, and which shall be attended by the sectional secretaries together with such of the Central Office Staff as may be deemed necessary.

It is further agreed that a full memorandum of the proceedings at each such meeting shall be supplied to each section from the Central Office.

In support of the resolution he said they felt that the Union was not doing all the work it might do for want of proper co-ordination of the efforts of the various departments. The co-operative movement was one of the finest organisations in existence if only it was properly engineered, and he wanted some central authority to keep the machinery well oiled. There should be meetings once a month of representatives of all the sections, representatives of the United Board, and such members of the Union Staff as might be deemed necessary, so that the policy of the movement might be discussed and problems worked out in the proper way. They had the finest machinery if they knew how to use it; and what they wanted was something to bring the whole of their efforts into harmony.

Mr. W. J. SALMON (Southern Section) seconded the resolution.

In reply to Mr. Millington, Mr. CHARTER added that this committee would meet in a consultative capacity to assist in carrying out the policy laid down by the movement. There should be members of the United Board, officials, and sectional secretaries at these meetings.

Mr. J. MILLINGTON (Midland Section) pointed out that there were representatives of all the societies on the United Board. He did not want the movement to fall into the same policy as the governments of modern times and have more harness than horses. They were getting new committees every week. He believed the sectional secretaries should be taken into consultation; but the United Board have power to consult them on matters of policy; and if they did not do it they were not using the brains and the ability of the secretaries in the best interests of the movement. But if they were going to set up a new committee every time they had a new idea they would be frittering away energy and effort.

Mr. CHARTER: We are not asking for a new committee. We are asking that the best use should be made of existing machinery.

The CHAIRMAN explained that under an arrangement in force for some time, the staff had arranged to have periodical meetings. One was held last December. These meetings were calculated to conduce to the smoother

working of the Union. That resolution appeared to go rather too far. If their friends of the Southern Section would accept the quarterly meetings of the staff with representatives of the United Board, he thought their object would be achieved.

Mr. B. WILLIAMS (secretary, Southern Section) testified to the value of the conference held in December, and expressed the view that it was better for the staff to get into touch with their work in that manner than by post. It gave them a living interest in it.

Mr. CHARTER agreed to the suggestion that the quarterly staff conferences with the representatives of the United Board should be accepted as meeting the idea put forward.

Mr. S. R. FOSTER (North-Western Section) moved: "That the question be referred back to the Sectional Boards," and Mr. BRYANT (Western Section) seconded.

Mr. A. STODDART (secretary, Northern Section) said the Central Board should conduct the policy of the Union. The United Board was the executive of the Central Board. The United Board would arrange for the work being carried out by those responsible on the permanent staff; and if necessary call conferences of those carrying out this work.

It was agreed that the staff conferences should suffice with the sectional secretaries included.

SECTIONAL SECRETARIES' SALARIES.

Mrs. M. A. GASSON (Southern Section), on behalf of the Southern Sectional Board, proposed the following resolution:—

That this Board (Southern Section) disagrees with the fixing of a maximum salary for sectional secretaries and protests against the sum suggested to be paid to the secretary of the Southern Section as being entirely inadequate as recompense for the work involved, and the responsibilities attached to the office, and agrees to forward the following resolution for consideration at the Central Board Meeting to be held on April 11th and 12th:—

That the United Board be instructed to fix the present salary of the secretary of the Southern Section at £350 per annum, with an additional allowance of £50 to cover the higher cost of living in the London area, as compared with the cost of living in the provinces.

She said the Southern Sectional Board disagreed with the fixing of a maximum salary. If the co-operative movement was advancing, sectional secretaries' work would increase very much in the future and surely they were not going to say to these people, "When you get to the standard of £350 you can get no more." She referred to the extra cost of living in London compared with other parts of England, and said rents of houses, rates and taxes, were higher in London than elsewhere. (Several members: "Question!")

She thought, for that reason, the Southern Sectional secretary should have an additional salary of £50 a year.

Mr. M. H. CLEAR (Southern Section) seconded the resolution and pointed out that the Government in fixing the amount of the army and navy separation allowances at a higher figure for London than in the provinces had demonstrated the fact that the cost of living was higher in London than in other parts of the country.

Mr. W. T. CHARTER (Southern Section) supported the resolution, suggesting that the members did not know of a trade union which would fix a maximum for any work. He thought they should dignify the office and let the man live at least free from poverty. He did not believe in using money for war memorials or any other memorials until they paid their men properly.

Mr. J. MILLINGTON (Midland Section) stated that in nearly all trade unions the men got more if they resided in London.

Mr. D. EVANS (Western Section) was in favour of paying a sectional secretary quite as well whether he were in the north or south, and was not in favour of making distinctions.

Mr. R. R. CHAPPELL (Western Section) said if the Southern Section had brought forward this question with a view to revising salaries as a whole, he would have supported them. He also pointed out that they could not make comparisons at present in the prices of commodities.

A MEMBER asked if they might be told the present salary of the Southern sectional secretary.

The CHAIRMAN said no question had caused more trouble to the Office Committee and the United Board than this one. At the request of the United Board the Office Committee prepared a scale of payment for sectional secretaries under which their salary was advanced at a certain rate. The Southern sectional secretary was appointed at a salary of £200 per annum. His present salary was £330, and it was recommended that this should be increased to the maximum of £350 by annual increments of £10. He, the Chairman, knew of no claim which could be put forward by the Southern sectional secretary that could not be put forward also by the Scottish sectional secretary or the Northern sectional secretary. The Chairman then proceeded to give details of the present salaries of other sectional secretaries. In conclusion, he said, in view of the financial position in which the Union had been placed he felt a keen responsibility and suggested that the resolution should be negatived.

A vote was then taken and the CHAIRMAN declared the resolution lost.

NATIONALISATION OF THE LAND.

Mr. J. JOHNSTON (North-Western Section) proposed :—

“That the Co-operative Congress at Carlisle be recommended to include in its programme the nationalisation of the land.”

Up to the present, he said, the co-operative movement had no settled policy

with regard to this question. Some years ago Congress passed a resolution to the effect that the movement was in favour of land nationalisation, but no propaganda work had been carried out. As a practical man, he believed they should get possession of the land. Mr. Johnston proceeded to trace the increases in the price of wheat over a period of years, and said the country was paying fifty million pounds a year in the form of a subsidy to enable bread to be sold at 9d. a loaf. He was not in favour of subsidies. He also referred to the Land Bill before Parliament and said it was likely to cause a large increase in the cost of land. He therefore appealed to the meeting to declare itself on this question of the nationalisation of the land. He said co-operators had no land policy in their political programme. The only party which had a policy was the Labour Party, who declared that the land should come into the hands of the people.

Mr. J. MILLINGTON (Midland Section) seconded the resolution without comment.

Messrs. G. RIDDLE, A. STODDART, and G. A. RAMSAY considered the resolution was covered in the programme of the Co-operative Political Party.

Mr. N. M'LEAN, M.P. (Scottish Section), although in favour of the resolution, also considered it was covered in the political programme. Proceeding, he said, Mr. Johnston's policy was no more definite than the Government's policy. There was no suggestion as to how they were to get the land, and that was the policy they wanted. Some definite method was required.

The resolution was then put to the vote and declared carried.

PERMANENT EXECUTIVE.

Mr. W. GREGORY (North-Western Section) suggested that it might save the time of the meeting if he mentioned that the Survey Committee intended to ask Congress to allow them to withdraw that part of the report relating to the permanent executive. They desired to submit an addendum to the report which would tend to secure unified action between the Wholesale and the Union. He thought the Survey Committee had taken the right course, and he hoped Mr. Johnston would withdraw his proposed resolution.

Mr. JOHNSTON accepted that suggestion, as representing the will of the meeting, and withdrew the resolution.

NEW HOUSES FOR WORKERS.

Mr. J. JOHNSTON then proposed—

That each Sectional Board of the Co-operative Union be urged to call a special conference in their respective sections, at as early a date as possible to consider the course to be adopted with regard to the duty of the co-operative movement in taking an active and important part in providing new houses for the workers in order to do away with the terrible overcrowding that now exists, which is so harmful to the physical and moral health of the community.

In support of the resolution Mr. Johnston said that if co-operators believed housing was an urgent problem they should do something ; and if they did not do something they should cease speaking about it and leave it to others who would deal with it. There was a feeling that housing should be attended to by the Government. We were the Government. The Government got its money from us. If the cost of the housing would not be paid through rates to the local authorities it would be paid through taxes. We were not saving anything by having this done through the Government. They had a lot of blunderers in the Government. The Government said 400,000 houses were wanted, but twice 500,000 would not cover the number of houses wanted. Since 1911 there had been a great dearth of houses ; ten per cent of the population were living in overcrowded conditions. The shortage meant that we were sacrificing 250,000 lives that might be saved under proper conditions and that meant an economic loss of £40,000,000 per year. The local authorities would have to provide the housing and the Central Board should give instructions for sectional conferences to be held to show what should be done.

Mr. W. MILLERCHIP (Midland Section) pointed out that there were certain definite special recommendations with regard to housing in the Survey Committee's report. Difficulties were looming ahead and they ought to wait till the Survey Committee's report came before Congress.

Mr. A. STODDART (secretary, Northern Section) reminded the members of the Board that at the local elections there was scarcely an individual elected who was not pledged to have the housing question dealt with immediately.

Mr. J. PATTERSON (Scottish Section) suggested that some of the members of Parliament present should clear the cobwebs out of the Government.

Mr. H. J. MAY (hon. member, Southern Section) thought the conferences suggested might be useful in one direction. There was a Bill before Parliament, one of the provisions of which was to secure housing by means of Public Utility Societies registered under the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts. This was a matter of extreme importance, not only from the point of view of the general need for houses, but from the point of view of co-operative societies. They were doing their best to secure that in the event of the Bill being passed in its present form the powers conferred would fall upon co-operative societies ; and they had good hopes that they would succeed. There was a probability that the Labour Party would oppose the Bill passing into law ; and it was more than probable that the Labour Party would not succeed. He did not think they expected to succeed in defeating that clause of the Bill. If the Bill passed into law, co-operators wanted to get the best advantage out of it for the community and for co-operators. The Labour Party's objection was based on a fear that the powers conferred by the Bill would be used by small groups of persons with individualistic instincts for profit-making. Co-operators wanted societies, without re-registration, to become Public Utility Societies and so obtain

all the benefits of the State scheme, and provide houses so as to give the best effect to the Government proposals.

Mr. G. RIDDLE (Northern Section) urged that there was pressing need for propaganda. The Government had adopted its scheme without any public inquiry; and there should be vigorous propaganda if only to show the local authorities that co-operators had some interest in their own affairs.

Mr. N. M'LEAN, M.P. (Scottish Section) explained that the Labour Party were opposing the Bill because they did not see why there should be any need for a co-operative society or a public utility society to enter into this matter. The Party might be defeated; but the principle was there, viz., that the State had a duty to provide houses. The conferences suggested would do some service if they insisted upon the State being the sole provider of houses. He did not want to see the co-operative movement entering into competition with a few individuals.

Mr. Johnston's resolution was lost.

It was agreed at this stage to adjourn the meeting until the following morning.

SATURDAY'S SESSION.

The following members of the Board were present at the meeting held on Saturday (April 12th) :—

IRISH SECTION.

Mr. J. Palmer.

MIDLAND SECTION.

Messrs. J. Butcher, W. J. Douse, G. Harris, A. H. Jones, J. Langley, W. Millerchip, J. Millington, J. G. Shacklock, W. Warren, and C. A. W. Saxton (secretary).

NORTHERN SECTION.

Messrs. J. Davison, S. Galbraith, M.P., W. R. Rae, G. Riddle, and A. Stoddart (secretary).

NORTH-WESTERN SECTION.

Messrs. W. R. Blair, E. Booth, G. Briggs, W. Dewhurst, S. Fairbrother, S. R. Foster, G. Goodenough, J. Greenwood, W. Gregory, F. Hayward, A. Horricks, E. Houghton, J. Johnston, G. Major, T. Redfearn, J. Thompson, T. Way, B. Woolfenden, and J. Bradshaw (secretary).

SCOTTISH SECTION.

Messrs. P. J. Agnew, J. Deans, P. Loney, J. Lucas, N. M'Lean, M.P., J. Petterson, and A. Purdie.

SOUTHERN SECTION.

Mrs. Gasson, Messrs. J. H. Bate, W. T. Charter, M. H. Clear, S. Foulger, A. Hainsworth, E. King, W. J. Salmon ; also H. J. May (hon. member) and B. Williams (secretary).

SOUTH-WESTERN SECTION.

Mrs. Found, Messrs. J. T. Davis, R. Pearce, Rev. G. A. Ramsay, and W. H. Watkins.

WESTERN SECTION.

Messrs. W. H. Bryant, R. R. Chappell, J. P. Davies, D. Evans, J. L. Powell, and D. Williams.

Also the General and Assistant Secretaries, Messrs. J. Pollitt (Labour Adviser) and S. F. Perry (secretary, National Co-operative Representation Committee).

ALD. HAYWARD, who again presided, said they adjourned the previous evening when they had completed item 10 on the agenda. Item 11 consisted of three things : (a) additional staff, (b) co-operative college, and (c) technical scholarships. These matters had been referred to the Central Board by the Education Committee, who had deputed Mr. Fairbrother and Mr. Ramsay to introduce them.

Mr. S. FAIRBROTHER (North-Western Section) said that after the discussion on the previous evening he did not propose to deal with the question of a co-operative college. But before saying anything about technical scholarships and educational work pure and simple, he would like to call attention to the position of the staff who were dealing primarily and almost solely with educational work. When they considered that the present staff of the Educational Department were working from ten to twenty hours overtime per week, he thought they would agree that it was time the Central Board spoke. It was suggested that in certain departments the wages were practically sweating wages, but even if the members of the staff were not sweated in regard to wages they could scarcely get away from the fact that they were sweated from the point of view of overwork, and that could not go on without a deteriorating effect upon the whole work of the Educational Department. He was sure they would all agree that if they overworked anyone they were not going to get the best out of them. He ventured to say that the educational work of the Union was the work which would live longest and have the greatest effect upon future generations of co-operators ; and it was to the future co-operators that they had to look for developments and growth ; and if they were to have healthy growth it must be stimulated by educational work. Some of the work of the Educational Department was held back by the shortage of staff. He did not mean classes in connection with the college, but that form of education carried on at Holyoake House dealing with co-operation and general subjects. Some time ago there was transferred to the Educational Department work which was originally farmed

out, that was the examination of papers, which was now entirely done by the education staff at Holyoake House, thereby adding to the already over-worked condition of the staff. They believed the time had now come when they should ask for some help in the Educational Department by the appointment of teachers, assistants, and lecturers. It was of paramount importance that employees should know all about the articles with which they had to deal, and it was with that object in view that they asked the Central Board not to shelve but to take into consideration and inaugurate technical scholarships, so that they could keep abreast of the best firms of the country. Over one hundred large firms dealing in foodstuffs and clothing had schemes in operation to improve the intellectual capacity of their workers, and in view of that fact they thought it was time for the co-operative movement to waken up to the danger which lay at its door. If those firms could undertake out of their profits to educate their employees, then there was a duty devolving upon the co-operative movement to develop the minds of its employees along those lines, because, after all, the problems facing them were not solely connected with the question of getting a living, because if they did not live they would not need houses.

Mr. G. A. RAMSAY (South-Western Section), speaking as a member of the Central Education Committee, said they felt they were only doing their duty by asking the Central Board to very seriously consider the critical state of the whole of the educational work of the co-operative movement; for that was what it really amounted to; and as matters stood to-day it was an impossible position; not only could they not go forward, but they could not carry on that which they were doing at the present time. It was a great tribute to the educational staff that during the very difficult war period not only did they carry on with their own particular work but also, to a very admirable degree, increase the educational work of the co-operative movement. He believed they felt they were under a sense of special obligation, owing to war circumstances, to work ten and twenty hours overtime per week; but now they were being asked by the Congress National Programme, and he thought by co-operative societies all over the country, to make further advances, they could not expect members of their educational staff to go on working overtime as they had done in the past. He thought they must recognise, especially in educational work, that if they continually worked overtime, they were bound to do their work in such a way that they themselves would be dissatisfied with the results. They had on the educational staff some men with most excellent qualifications for carrying on their educational work, and it was not fair to them to ask them to go on working at such a pressure, which could only lead to dissatisfaction on their part with the work they were able to accomplish, not to speak of the possibility that they were labouring under some injustice. They had asked the United Board to give them permission and to grant them facilities for going forward with certain developments of their work and they were told in each case that they would have to stay their hands. The argument

against technical scholarships was that they should wait and see whether the State was going to provide those kind of scholarships. He hoped the Central Board would recognise that had they waited for the State to help them the probability was they would have had no co-operative movement. He hoped the movement would always be ahead of the general average which was represented by State action. He ventured to suggest that after all the aspirations of their friend Douse regarding education had been put into practice by the State there would still be room for education from the particular point of view of the co-operative movement. "They wanted democracy not only to have the power to rule, but also the capacity to rule, and in neglecting education they were flinging aside the power and capacity to rule and the opportunity to fit themselves to take their proper place in democracy. He concluded by moving the following resolution :—

That, provided Congress agrees to the increased rate of subscriptions to the Union, the Central Education Committee be requested to proceed immediately with the developments, the details of which were contained in the memorandum presented to the Office Committee on March 14th.

Mr. W. R. RAE (Northern Section, chairman of the Education Committee) seconded the resolution, and expressed the hope that they would approve its sweet reasonableness. There had been in the minds of some members of the Central Board an idea that the idealism possessed by the Education Committee was making the members of it into a kind of educational cranks. They wanted to show that they not only possessed idealism but also some common sense, and that they desired their work to proceed along commonsense and co-operative lines. They were not asking the Central Board, because it could not at the moment pledge its pocket, to pledge its coat, but to say that the first charge on the additional income of the Union, which he was quite sure would be sanctioned by Congress when it met at Carlisle, should be the developments which the Central Educational Committee had suggested.

Mr. A. PURDIE (Scottish Section) said he did not think any member of the United Board at the meeting on March 14th, when they received a deputation from the Educational Committee, thought for one moment of permitting any member of the Union staff to be sweated; but they were in this position: they were appealing to societies for financial support to put the finances of the Union on a satisfactory basis, and they thought before adopting the proposals of the Education Committee they should wait until Congress had sanctioned the increase in the rate of subscriptions to the Union. He believed the whole of the members of the United Board thoroughly agreed that the educational work of the Union should go on, and if possible, be improved. This was the only condition which the United Board laid down, that the Education Committee should not proceed with the suggested developments until the Union had been placed in a better

position financially. Some of them had their own opinions regarding co-operative colleges and other things, but they would not for a moment dream of curtailing the activities of the Central Committee. It had been stated that one proposal of the Educational Committee was likely to entail an expenditure of nearly £1,500, and another would increase the amount to something like £3,000. That was a serious matter for the United Board to take into consideration, but he thought the Educational Committee could rest assured that if Congress passed the appeal to societies for increased subscriptions the United Board would be the first to assist the committee and give it the first claim on any extra finances which were likely to come into the funds of the Union.

Mr. T. WAX (North-Western Section) asked if the Central Educational Committee had in mind the development of general education along the lines of citizenship, including vocation, or was the education contemplated to be specifically vocational.

Mr. G. A. RAMSAY said they proposed to develop along the lines of what in the highest sense could be described as co-operative education and not education which was distinctly vocational only so far as it touched the co-operative movement. Their idea, in a word, was to develop education from a co-operative point of view.

Mr. G. MAJOR (North-Western Section), after observing that the case for the United Board in regard to the Derby programme of the Education Committee had been fairly put by Mr. Purdie, said he did not like the recommendation of the Central Education Committee in its present form and could not, therefore, support it. If the resolution was carried, and Congress sanctioned the increase in the rate of subscriptions to the Union, the United Board was committed to the programme drawn up by the Education Committee at Derby. The United Board had not considered the details of that programme, and he suggested the resolution should be so framed that in the event of Congress agreeing to the increased subscription to the funds of the Union, it should be left to the United Board, if the members of it thought desirable, to amend the programme.

Mr. J. DAVISON (Northern Section) said it appeared to him that, seeing the United Board had not considered the details of the programme, the Education Committee were endeavouring to steal a march upon them.

The CHAIRMAN said that as a representative of the United Board he did not think it was fair for anyone to assume that the Board had taken the attitude it had from any lack of sympathy with education. Personally, he was not prepared to play second fiddle to any member of the Central Education Committee in the matter of the best education for everybody connected with the co-operative movement. But they were faced with the fact that last year they had a deficit on their income approaching £3,000 and that there would probably be an equivalent deficit this year. It therefore seemed unwise that the United Board should commit itself to an expenditure which ran into £3,000 until it was assured that something like sufficient

money was coming into the funds of the Union from societies. If they adopted the resolution as it stood it meant that the United Board, without any argument, would be required to conform to the will of the Central Education Committee. In his opinion it would be far better to adjourn the matter until the necessary funds were in sight. Then the United Board could go into the whole question, and if what they suggested or recommended did not meet the wishes and desires of the Central Education Committee, the committee could bring the matter before the next meeting of the Central Board.

Mr. J. LUCAS (Scottish Section and Central Education Committee) said that if they passed a resolution somewhat on the lines of the one brought forward by Mr. Ramsay they would have a far better chance of getting the increase in subscriptions from societies than otherwise. He would like to emphasise one point made by Mr. Ramsay, and that was, that education was not something in a fixed state; it was always advancing, which made it all the more necessary that their teachers should not only be teachers but students as well. At present, however, they could not be students to the extent they should be because most of their time had to be devoted to other duties. Such a state of affairs was bound to reflect on their work as teachers sooner or later, and unfortunately such work could not be measured by a yardstick. By passing a resolution of the character suggested by Mr. Ramsay he believed they would stimulate the Central Education Committee and the teachers to go forward in their work.

Mr. J. MILLINGTON (Midland Section) said that whilst they were in favour of additions to the present staff of the Educational Department they wanted to proceed on constitutional lines and not by the suggested resolution. If they took the sense of Congress on this question, and the delegates approved of the main principles laid down, and left it to the United Board to carry out the details, then he was satisfied they would be doing the right thing. So far as the members of the staff were concerned, he was sure they all wanted to see them adequately paid, whether it cost £3,000 or £13,000. He believed a college was a prime necessity for the future of the co-operative movement; but by getting the consent of Congress he thought it would strengthen their hands when appealing to societies for the necessary funds. It was proposed that the technical scholarships should be of the value of £25. He considered this too small to meet the cost of three months' training away from home, and believed it would have to be augmented from the funds of local societies; and they had yet to convince the committees of large societies that they were going to get something back from their trained students.

Mr. RAMSAY said he thought they could agree to an alteration in the resolution, but there had evidently been some misunderstanding as to what they were asking for. It had been suggested they were asking for the appointment of fifteen persons: that was not so. What they were asking for was the immediate appointment of one man teacher, and one woman

teacher, and one typist, leaving the other developments to follow as circumstances allowed. So long as they were definite on the point that if Congress agreed to the increase in the rate of subscription the Central Education Committee should go ahead with its work, he believed the case of the committee would be met. He had, therefore, no objection to the resolution being altered as follows :—

That, provided Congress agrees to increase the rate of subscription to the Union, the Central Education Committee be requested to proceed immediately with the developments of their work.

The resolution was agreed to on the understanding that the United Board should be consulted before definite action was taken.

CENTRALISATION IN LONDON.

The GENERAL SECRETARY read a letter from the National Co-operative Representation Committee suggesting that all the branches of the Union activities in London might be centralised in one building, and it was resolved to remit the matter to the United Board.

JOINT INDUSTRIAL COUNCILS.

Mr. W. R. BLAIR (North-Western Section), on behalf of himself and other co-operative representatives on the National Industrial Council for the Baking Trade, drew attention to the invidious position in which they sometimes found themselves. As representatives of co-operative societies they were on the council as employers, and when a difference arose between masters and men, if they sided with the master bakers they would be in opposition to trade-unionists, with whom, as co-operators, they were endeavouring to secure more friendly relations. They were naturally inclined towards helping employees engaged in the baking trade to improve their conditions of labour, but whenever they showed this inclination the master bakers complained that by the inclusion of representatives of co-operative societies on the council the scales were weighted against them, and were refusing to recognise them as master bakers alongside themselves. In fact, on the newly-formed district council for the baking trade for Lancashire they had definitely refused to give co-operative societies the proportion of representation as provided for in the recommendation of the National Industrial Council.

Mr. BLAIR also reported on the proposed abolition of night work in bakeries. He said they (the co-operative representatives on the council) had received suggestions from societies that they should oppose the abolition of night work, and from other societies strong appeals that they should support its abolition. They decided to press for the abolition of night work, with the insertion of terms which would prevent any hardships falling upon societies which were in difficulties at the present time owing to lack of plant

and which would permit night work to make up for loss of time at weekend and holidays. He attended the recent conference of employers and employed in London, and when nominations for the baking trade were asked for he did not feel justified in putting in a claim for representation on behalf of the co-operative movement. The Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employees had representatives at that conference and he thought if he demanded special representation for the co-operative movement on the joint provisional Council, the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employees would claim the right to equal representation. Under the circumstances he decided to say nothing, and he did not adjourn with the masters when they had a separate meeting to form a sub-committee. He thought it was better to take that course rather than put the co-operative movement in a false position.

Mr. J. MILLINGTON (Midland Section) said he was glad some concession had been made regarding night work, because they at Birmingham, owing to the difficulty of getting additional plant, found they could not keep up their output without night work. If they claimed that the Industrial Council was representative of three bodies, operative bakers, master bakers, and co-operative societies, then he agreed their representatives on the Council had taken the right course in abstaining from helping the master bakers to fight their battles. But if they said that the co-operative societies were part of the masters' side, then their representatives on the Council had not done the right thing in abstaining from taking the part of the masters.

Mr. W. H. WATKINS (South-Western Section) trusted their representatives on the Bakers' Council would take their stand beside the private employers and express opinions from the point of view of co-operative employers in the cases which came before the Council. There had been the utmost difficulty at the Food Ministry and elsewhere in getting thoroughly expressed the co-operative point of view, and he trusted their representatives on the Bakers' Council would not be prevented from taking their stand and their full position as employers because there was such a thing as the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employees.

Mr. G. MAJOR (North-Western Section) said he did not see how they could avoid taking one side or the other. They were employers, and as such they would show weakness if they did not take their courage in their hands and side with the other employers on the Council with a view of obtaining the best conditions of labour for their employees. There was a limit to which co-operative societies could go in competition with other firms, and if there was a national award he thought it was incumbent upon the operative bakers to see that the award was brought into force nationally, so that when co-operative societies adopted it they would not be placed at a disadvantage with competitors through master bakers not adopting it.

The CHAIRMAN, closing the discussion, said : I think our representatives on the Bakers' Council will take note of what has been said.

CHAIRMAN OF THE CENTRAL BOARD.

The GENERAL SECRETARY reminded the members that at the last meeting of the Central Board it had been decided that in future nominations for the position of chairman should be invited from the sectional boards, it being provided that the person elected should also be chairman of the United Board. The United Board had passed the following resolution:—

That at the Central Board meeting on the Tuesday evening in Congress week the sectional boards be asked to make their nominations and that ballot papers be sent out as soon as possible after Congress, so that the elections may be held before the first meeting of the United Board, which takes place a month after Congress.

This was unanimously agreed to.

THE BARRHEAD CASE.

The recent judgment in the action for interdict against the Barrhead Society was referred to by the CHAIRMAN, who briefly stated the position of the society and the Union. The society's rule bearing upon the allocation of profit had been considered by the Union's solicitors to be unsatisfactory. The United Board had advised the society to amend its rule so as to bring it into conformity with the Model Rules of the Union. In consideration of the Barrhead Society doing this the Union undertook to stand behind the society and arrangements were made so that the case might be argued before the judge. Before the society had time to alter the rule the case came on and the pursuers declined to have it postponed. The United Board, in view of the fact that the society had undertaken to alter the rules, agreed to honour its promise. The case came before the judge who ruled against the society spending money on political purposes. Although he admitted that the Section of the Industrial and Provident Societies Act gave power to co-operative societies to employ their profits for this purpose, he decided that a few words in that particular rule prevented this society from making the payments questioned. That week the Barrhead Society held a meeting to alter its rules in accordance with the promise given to the Union; but the proposal to alter the rule had been turned down. They had this judgment against Barrhead Society; the society had not carried out its undertaking given to the United Board; and, as a consequence, it was felt that they should leave Barrhead to fight its own case. There was a further complication. The solicitor who had defended the action had recommended that the decision should be appealed against; but the Office Committee were not prepared to take any action, and they felt that as the Union had carried out its part of the bargain the matter should be left.

Mr. J. DEANS (secretary, Scottish Section) explained that the decision of Lord Ormidale meant that the Act gave societies full rights to dispose of their profits if they had a properly framed rule. That was a considerable

victory. Then he decided that this society's rule was not properly drafted, and, therefore, that the society had not the power it thought it had. Mr. Gunn (the solicitor) and the Counsel in the case had pressed the society to amend its rule; and Dr. San Garde (solicitor) had drafted a rule which was put before the society. Mr. Gunn and he went to the Barrhead Society's meeting that week. They did not go to raise any controversy, but to advise the society to amend its rule so that if any emergency did arise they would have power to take such action as their present rule debarred. The opponents of the change turned out in great numbers, determined that the alteration would not be allowed to pass. Objection was taken to either Mr. Gunn or himself speaking, although it was agreed that they should be allowed to answer any questions that might be put. Eventually it was decided by a majority of 92 not to alter the rule.

Mr. S. F. PERRY (secretary, National Co-operative Representation Committee) said that what had happened at Barrhead was only typical of what was happening all over the country. He appealed to the Central Board to make the model rule really a model rule.

Mr. G. RIDDLE (Northern Section) was disappointed at the attitude of the Office Committee. If the Co-operative Union was worth its salt it would fight this thing to a finish. He did not believe that the advocates of their policy in Barrhead Society should be left high and dry. The opposition in Barrhead had been engineered and at heart the society was sound. He urged that propagandists should be sent to Barrhead so that the members would be brought to change their position. There had been a case of the same sort in Sheffield; but time had removed the difficulty there; and the Union should stand behind the Barrhead Society.

Mr. G. MAJOR (North-Western Section) did not see why the Board should adopt Mr. Riddle's suggestion. The society did not want the Union to help. He thought it was up to the Union to issue a circular suggesting how rules should be framed by societies that wanted to take political action. The opposition was from outside; but if they did not take steps to see that societies had proper rules they would have again what had happened that week.

Mr. A. PURDIE (Scottish Section) explained that there was one point the meeting had not quite caught. It would be a foolish action to leave Barrhead to fight that case alone. It was true that the society's rules were not drawn up in such a manner as to give the power to take political action. There had not been time to alter the rules on the lines suggested. They ought not to forget, however, that this was only the first skirmish with the enemy. Liberal and Tory hacks had been busy organising opposition to this little co-operative bantling that had entered the political arena. Were they going to turn away from a society that had always been of a progressive nature? The society had paid its subscriptions to the Union for forty years and it would probably secede if the Union deserted it. It was the duty of the Central Board to stand by the society and see it through.

The society ought not to be asked to pay the legal costs in connection with an action of this kind. It was Barrhead's turn now ; but it might be any other society's turn to-morrow. If they were going to turn against a society because it was not fortunate enough to be able to carry a majority in a packed meeting, it would have a bad effect in the movement. They must not forget that the permanent organisers of other parties were getting themselves elected to committees for the very purpose of defeating co-operative representatives. It would prejudice the whole cause now if they deserted Barrhead ; and the members of the society who usually attended the quarterly meetings were loyal and true to the principles advocated by the movement.

Mr. R. R. CHAPPELL (Western Section) did not agree with the suggestion that they should desert Barrhead. They ought to review the whole position. The Co-operative Union should get into touch with all the societies and see how their rules stood.

Mr. W. GREGORY (North-Western Section) said Mr. Purdie had misconstrued the position. It was not desired by the United Board that they should desert Barrhead. The society had had an injunction granted against it on the ground that its rules were not in order. The United Board were anxious to have the rules altered so that they could come before the Court with a test case which would enable the Union to advise societies. The Barrhead Society had refused to alter the rules and therefore they had refused the Union an opportunity to have a test case in this particular instance. The Union, therefore, wanted a test case somewhere else so that societies could be absolutely certain about their rules.

Mr. RIDDLE moved that the Union should continue to co-operate with the Barrhead Society.

The GENERAL SECRETARY said he did not see what purpose would be served by helping Barrhead further than by paying the costs of the action.

Mr. N. M'LEAN, M.P. (Scottish Section) said the members of the Scottish Section had taken it that the United Board did not recommend that the expenses be paid. (The Chairman : No ! We have not come to that decision.) Well, he thought that if they were going to take up that attitude they would be playing the game of the Carroll organisation. They had got this society to fight the case. The men who had been fighting—and they were men who were doing the work of the society—were wishful to alter the rule. They promised to do so ; but, instead of an ordinary meeting, they had a meeting organised to defeat that alteration. The Barrhead committee tried to meet the Union's wishes and tried to alter the rule. He thought the decision of the judge that the Act gave societies power to go into politics was something to pay for.

Mr. W. MILLERCHIP and the CHAIRMAN said there was no intention of shirking the expenses.

Mr. W. R. RAE suggested that the Union could not avoid the duty of standing behind the society, which was a member of the Union.

It was decided—

That the expenses of the case be defrayed by the Union, and that the solicitors be asked to frame a rule to enable societies to use their profits for political or other purposes.

NEW SCOTTISH PREMISES.

The GENERAL SECRETARY referred to the need for finding new office accommodation for the Scottish Section. The present offices were not fit for any one to work in. Their Scottish friends were proposing at the National Conference to appeal for funds to start a new office and they wanted to mention it there.

The CHAIRMAN: We are all agreed.

REPORT TO CONGRESS.

The Draft Report of the Central Board for submission to Congress was presented. Mr. RAE, Mrs. GASSON, and Mr. WATKINS took exception to the introductory passages and the General Secretary agreed to see that this was re-written.

SOCIETIES AND FARMING ACCOUNTS.

Mr. D. WILLIAMS (Western Section) remarked that it was one of the most gratifying features that so many societies were taking up farming. Would it be possible to have a uniform system of account-keeping so as to get some reliable statistics as to what they were doing?

The GENERAL SECRETARY: That is a matter which is already receiving the attention of the Union.

CONCERNING THE "A.O.S."

Mr. G. A. RAMSAY (South-Western Section) moved the deletion of a paragraph in section 7 of the report, as the A.O.S. were co-operating for their own purpose and not for ours.

Mr. J. P. DAVIES (Western Section) seconded. He could hardly believe his eyes when he saw the report. It was a most unfortunate sentence to put in there.

Mr. D. WILLIAMS (Western Section): In view of what took place last evening, I consider it advisable to revise the whole of the report. He referred his hearers to the report on the top of page 74.

The GENERAL SECRETARY: It is the report of the Agricultural Societies' work, and not of work in connection with the Union.

Mr. WILLIAMS: That is the point. You are incorporating it into our report.

It was agreed to delete from the report the matter relating to the Agricultural Organisation Societies.

STATISTICS WANTED.

Mr. W. R. BLAIR (North-Western Section), in regard to small savings or penny banks, inquired if they were going to have statistics for Congress this time.

The GENERAL SECRETARY: No. We have sent three applications out already, and we have not one-half of them returned.

Mr. BLAIR: There are a great many societies which, for reasons connected with their own management, have adopted death rate schemes and insurance or collective schemes of their own, and some are carrying on fidelity and guarantee systems of accident insurance, and so on. Would it not be as well if returns of those societies were made to Congress?

WEST CHINA IN SOUTHERN SECTION.

A question was asked as to which section the new society of Szechwan, West China, was to be allotted.

The CHAIRMAN: It goes to the Southern Section by the rule.

"CEASING TO EXIST."

The names of the Andrews Watch and the Coventry Watch Manufacturing Societies were mentioned as being societies that had ceased to exist.

Mr. BLAIR: Could not Penryfford be classed under "amalgamation" instead of "ceasing to exist," as it has been transferred to Queensferry?

MORE ABOUT THE "A.O.S."

Mr. J. T. DAVIS (South-Western Section), on the Report of the Central Board, asked what the result of the consideration of overlapping had been.

The GENERAL SECRETARY: That was explained last night, when you decided that no further action be taken with regard to the Agricultural Organisation Society, and you approved of the United Board's action in withholding its subscription.

A WELSH-SPEAKING ORGANISER WANTED.

Mr. W. R. BLAIR (North-Western Section): With regard to the appointment of a successor to Mr. E. L. Griffiths, as an organiser, said he was appealing for a Welsh-speaking organiser to take his place. The district he (the speaker) represented was 120 miles in length; and they were sadly in need of a Welsh-speaking organiser to deal with societies in North Wales, no doubt he would be useful also in South Wales. Such an appointment would prevent societies getting into difficulties and then having to put themselves into the hands of the Union in order to be put in a proper way.

FOOD CONTROL AND PROFITEERING.

Mr. H. J. MAY (hon. member, Southern Section), on the subject of the continuation of the Ministry of Food, said they might have seen in that

morning's papers that Mr. McCurdy, in a spirit of levity, had declared that those people who were concerned about the final dissolution of the Ministry of Food could get their mourning ready for the end of October. That was more than an inspired utterance. They wanted to retain what was good in the Ministry of Food and allow the war restrictions that were now unnecessary to disappear. What they wanted was to keep what was essential to consumers generally. Well, he had a resolution that had been drafted for submission to Congress, with the object of protecting the interests of consumers against profiteering, and also to obtain what they had been striving for for years, namely, the securing of net weights as the co-operative movement lost tens of thousands of pounds in one department alone, namely, tea. However, under D.O.R.A. weights and measures were automatically adjusted. He moved the inclusion of the resolution in the Congress agenda.

Mr. W. H. WATKINS (South-Western Section) seconded. They wanted the resolution to appear in the report and also to be communicated to the Government. As far as they were able to ascertain, especially those who were on the Consumers' Council, they realised that private interests made food control necessary on behalf of the people. The very people who set out to profiteer the moment war was declared were the very people who were now wanting to disband the Food Ministry, which was set up in the interests of the people, and also the Consumers' Council.

Mr. J. PATTERSON (Scottish Section): If this resolution is carried, I am afraid a great deal of dissatisfaction will be caused among our societies. If the Food Control is going to be carried out the same way as at the present time, it will not help our societies. The whole force of the law is brought against co-operative societies and not against private traders. He instanced the case of a man who was reported to a certain Food Control Committee, but they said they could not deal with him—he was their chairman!

Mr. J. LUCAS (Scottish Section): I quite agree with the resolution theoretically, but not in a practical application. During the whole four years of the war, as soon as the Food Control started, we have had less supplies than our neighbours could get from private shops in the district.

The resolution was put and carried. Several Scottish members showed a desire to talk on the subject.

The CHAIRMAN: We have agreed to the resolution, and I am afraid the remarks are foreign to the matter.

Mr. PATTERSON: If you are going to treat us that way I protest.

The CHAIRMAN: You have not moved an amendment; and there was an overwhelming majority in favour of the resolution.

Mr. PATTERSON: I was up on my feet, and I must lodge my protest.

SCOTLAND AND PARLIAMENTARY REPRESENTATION.

Mr. W. R. RAE (Northern Section) said he was intensely sorry that the National Co-operative Representation Committee could not see its way to

link up with other organisations in Scotland that were doing so much good along political lines. It seemed to him they had lost a grand opportunity of getting hold of some splendid societies. He was intensely sorry they had not taken over the existing societies in Scotland, even if they did not quite harmonise with their plan.

Mr. J. LUCAS (Scottish Section) remarked that Scotland had already formed a committee before, and, as Mr. Rae had suggested, they ought to have taken over the organisation. There would be strong feeling over the question; and the Scottish Section were bringing it before the National Conference in Scotland, who would have a resolution on the matter.

Mr. G. GOODENOUGH (North-Western Section) pleaded for full support of the action of the Representation Committee. The Scottish people wanted to do their own business and help the English to do theirs as well. He had had a short tour in Scotland, and he did know that the bulk of complaints there were due to too much circumlocution: they could not get to the head.

Mr. A. PURDIE (Scottish Section) said it was a pity that when Mr. Goodenough was in Scotland he was not educated a little better. They felt that in Scotland they had a Scottish sentiment that must be taken into consideration the same as there was an Irish sentiment. They had no desire to override the national organisation; but to work in harmony with it. They in Scotland had their useful organisations before, and they should have consideration; and they took it upon themselves to say they were miles ahead of the English in this respect. Had it not been for the action of the national committee the possibilities were that Mr. May and other co-operative candidates would have been returned. They claimed local autonomy. They knew conditions better in Scotland than did the average Englishman.

The CHAIRMAN: There is no reference in the report to any difference of opinion with regard to the Scottish Representation Committee; and as far as I know everything is being carried out in accordance with the constitution. If there is any alteration of the constitution desired, the only course is to table a resolution for Congress.

Mr. P. J. AGNEW (Scottish Section) said they were absolutely amazed to find that the committee had turned the tables in regard to these particular proposals. A considerable amount of irritation had been caused by the failure of negotiations between the National Representation Committee and Scotland. If those negotiations had been conducted on sane and honourable lines the negotiations would have been useful. They could not deal with the Scottish Section in exactly the same way as they were dealing with other sections of the Co-operative Union. The position would be fixed at the Scottish National Conference; and the Representation Committee could take it for granted that they would not attend Carlisle Congress divided, but would be absolutely united on this matter. The Representation Committee ought to try to make an offer to meet Scotland on this point. The Liverpool Congress simply put back the hands of the clock.

Mr. W. H. WATKINS (South-Western Section): There is no dispute

between us and our Scottish friends, unless it be on their side. There has been a consistent attempt made at conciliation from the very beginning and an effort made to adjust the situation as between the Central Committee and Scotland. There has also been an attempt made to utilise the machinery in Scotland which was known to have existed before we adopted our National Representation Committee. It was found that the machinery existing in Scotland would not answer for the purpose of representation as conceived for all over the country. Our Scottish friends have their point of view, and they will insist, and possibly with truth, that what is laid down by the Co-operative Union will not, and cannot, work so far as Scotland is concerned. So far as the majority of the committee are concerned, they say it will work if only they will let it work. We have not yet given up all hopes; and the committee have approved of Mr. Perry—who has been to Scotland more than once—going down to the National Conference and dealing with the matter as it arises there. I do want to assure you there is no kind of feeling whatever in regard to the committee as a whole. Our only aim is to make the scheme adopted by Congress workable in Scotland and elsewhere.

Mr. N. McLEAN, M.P. (Scottish Section), said the results so far as the conference was concerned, were abortive. They did not in any way fill in what Scottish societies wanted filling in. The conditions in England were different entirely from the conditions in Scotland. They had different laws in Scotland and different education—and, of course, that was the reason why Scotland was ahead. While the English were groping around for a method of political activity they had already found it in Scotland, where they had an organisation set up and in working order. And then, while Congress was discussing what should be done, and months were taken over the matter, the Scottish were compelled to mark time whilst the English had settled themselves, instead of leaving them to go ahead. The consequence was that political matters in Scotland were held up. Take his own case. He was standing as a Parliamentary candidate according to the terms laid down at Congress, yet there was nothing done to adopt him or to recommend to the members what should be in the very division he was standing for and in which he had been a director of a society for some time, until fourteen days before the polling day. If the things had been worked according to the Scottish ideas they would have gone through with their candidatures much more rapidly than was the case. "You go and talk about Home Rule for Ireland," he concluded, "but we claim that the Scottish Wholesale Society has been working along these lines for many years. Put us under the jurisdiction of the National Representation Committee if you like, but give us the right to form our own local organisation."

Mr. P. LONEY (Scottish Section) said they understood that when Mr. Perry came to Scotland some time ago, accompanied by Mr. Welsh, and met the Scottish section, they came with full powers to deal with the questions, but it was a great surprise to him to find that on no account could they

agree to any concessions. That was not fair dealing. The English were not "playing the game." And as for Mr. Goodenough's mission in Scotland, they heard nothing but "hard-faced" criticism about it.

Mr. J. MILLINGTON (Midland Section) said their only desire was to give suitable opportunity for the political action of the movement to develop. They had no desire to do any injury to their Scottish friends or to curtail their activities or political enthusiasm. The electoral law, he pointed out, was equally applicable to Scotland as to England. The present machinery was broad enough to be applicable to Scotland as to every county in England. If their Scottish friends could advance some argument why they should have preferential treatment then they would be ready to listen to it; and if it was sound argument, they would be ready to concede it. There was nothing to hinder in Scotland a large number of societies working together and acting as one mouthpiece to the central organisation, just as in Birmingham they had five or six societies working together.

Mr. S. F. PERRY (secretary of the Co-operative Parliamentary Representation Committee) said the statement put forth by their Scottish friends was not in accordance with facts. The negotiations, they said, should have been conducted on "sane and honourable lines." They should be the judges of his sanity; and he hoped they would give him credit for trying to be honourable. He maintained that the case was not made out for preferential treatment of Scotland. The National Co-operative Representation Committee were simply trying to carry out the constitution as agreed to at Congress. Out of twenty-nine representatives, five were from Scotland, and they were able to hold their own; and of the executive two out of seven were from Scotland. They had an organiser who devoted the whole of his time to Scotland, and whose salary and expenses cost the Central Board nearly £500 a year. The Central Board would make one of the greatest mistakes it had ever made if it did anything to break direct touch between local and central authorities. If they were out of touch with the rank and file they were out of touch with the feeling of the country. There were ten district conferences which had been recognised; and he might remind them that at the three contests in Scotland all the preliminary correspondence was done with the local bodies. If they had local bodies doing something without the knowledge of the National Committee they might easily get landed in heavy expenses at law. If they gave Scotland "home rule," they might as well give "home rule" to England, Wales, and Ireland, too. The co-operative movement must be taken as a whole, and not be split up. He was promised a "lively time" at the Scottish Conference. Well, he could tell them that he was quite prepared to defend himself and the cause.

SURVEY COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

Mrs. FOUND (South-Western Section) said it was stated the night before that the Survey Committee were going to alter some of their recommendations to Congress, and inquired when an opportunity would be given for their

consideration. If they had to wait until they met as a Central Board on the Saturday before Congress the time would be insufficient.

Mr. W. R. RAE (Northern Section) urged that the Survey Committee should not be pressed to say anything on the matter at the moment, because negotiations between one section of the committee and "a big co-operative organisation" were not yet completed.

Mr. G. MAJOR (North-Western Section) suggested that the report of the Survey Committee submitted to the Liverpool Congress should be got out of the way; the committee itself dissolved; and any further steps necessary should be brought about by means of resolutions of the Central Board. If they did not do something in that direction they were going to have the Survey Committee in perpetuity.

Mr. W. GREGORY (North-Western Section), speaking as a member of the Survey Committee, said the report of the committee would be submitted to the Carlisle Congress exactly as it was presented to the Liverpool Congress last year, and the Congress would have to decide whether it accepted any portion or the report as a whole. There would, however, be an addendum to the report, and that would contain matters referred to by Mr. Rae. Any delay which had occurred was not the fault of the Survey Committee, but was the result of difficulties experienced in the course of negotiations with other bodies.

Mr. J. MILLINGTON (Midland Section) asked them to look at the foolish position in which they were likely to place themselves. The report of the Survey Committee had been before the constituency four or five years, and now at the "tag end" they were going to bring something before Congress which was likely to alter the whole situation. It would appear to Congress as though they did not know their own minds.

Mr. J. LUCAS (Scottish Section) said other things had been brought before the constituency for the first time at Congress, and Mr. Millington, at any rate, had not said a word against such a course being taken. Mr. Millington also stated that the opinions of societies had been registered with regard to the whole report of the Survey Committee. He did not think such was the case. At least at the conferences he had attended—and he had attended a good many—there had been full discussion on various portions of the report, but no resolution was come to.

Mr. W. R. BLAIR (North-Western Section) thought they should be taken into the confidence of the Survey Committee, so that they might have some idea of what was likely to come before them at a later date. The Survey Committee was appointed by the Central Board and therefore responsible to that Board ("No, no."). He had taken the trouble to look up the proceedings of Congress at Dublin, and there the Central Board was instructed to appoint a special committee to consider and report on the lines laid down. At the Leicester Congress it was reported that the Survey Committee had had its first meeting and at the outset considered the terms of reference remitted to the committee by the Central Board. If that was not constituting the committee he would like to know what was.

Mr. W. MILLERCHIP (Midland Section) said he would like to say, as a member of the Survey Committee responsible for one section of the report, namely, the trade section, that that section was altogether complete, and so far as he knew there would be no modifications or alterations; but so far as the constitution was concerned he was there to defend the position that the changed and altered circumstances and conditions since the war was begun justified the committee in altering their views with regard to certain questions of constitution, in order that they might appear before the country as a united organisation, with the whole of the boards of the co-operative movement so organised as to meet the new and changing conditions brought about by the war. As they knew, the attitude taken by the organisation referred to was not at the beginning very friendly towards the Survey Committee, and it refused to become part of the constitution of such a committee; but he believed the feelings of the majority of that organisation's representatives had changed entirely during the last two or three years. He would like to join his colleagues in asking the Central Board not to press them to make any statement regarding the proposals which were now matters of delicate negotiations and which would, he hoped, be carried to a successful issue.

The CHAIRMAN said that so far as his own personal feelings were concerned he agreed with those members of the Board who had expressed disappointment with the position in which they found themselves that morning. He agreed with Mr. Blair that the Central Board was the responsible authority in connection with the Survey Committee, and that the recommendations of the committee should go to Congress with the approval of the Central Board, or they should not go at all. Any changes to the report could be brought before Congress as amendments to the proposals submitted to previous Congresses.

Mr. J. POLLITT (Survey Committee) said he did not think the committee would have any objection to the winding up of its report. But what he wanted to bring before them was this: The report which the committee presented to the Liverpool Congress was drawn up to meet conditions then prevailing. They must, however, readily recognise that there had been vast changes since the conclusion of the war, and they had only to look at what was taking place in the commercial world to see that was so; and in bringing forward new proposals in order that the co-operative movement might be able to meet those changing conditions he did not think they were deserving of the censure which was being heaped upon them by some of those who had previously spoken. Many of those present were members of boards of management, and he would like to ask them, did they tell their members everything when carrying through delicate negotiations? Mr. Pollitt contended that it was the business of the Survey Committee to suggest proposals which, if adopted, would meet the changed conditions of trade and commerce so far as the co-operative movement was concerned. Proceeding, he said they would be guilty of a breach of confidence if they

made known the nature of the proceedings until they knew how far the other people were prepared to come along with them. They believed the delegates to Congress, when they assembled at Carlisle, would recognise that it was absolutely necessary that something should be brought forward to meet the changed conditions to which he had referred, and that they would follow them in the report which they would bring before Congress.

Mr. W. R. RAE, replying, said they were not withholding details because they did not want the Central Board to know, but because, constitutionally, they could not tell. The details were only in the hands of a portion of the Survey Committee; the whole committee had not considered them and it would not be constitutional to give them, while they were the subject matter of negotiations, even if the Survey Committee had expressed themselves in favour of them. It was possible the Survey Committee might refuse to accept the report of their own sub-committee; but it was extremely unlikely, because the report of the sub-committee was very wisely drawn up. It would not be fair to the Survey Committee to bring these details up at that meeting before the members of the committee had seen them. The Survey Committee, he added, were extremely anxious to have this matter wound up. They had been spending a lot of time and taking a lot of trouble over it; and they had not received gratitude, thanks, or sensible criticism. They were not anxious, therefore, to perpetuate that state of affairs. He would be glad to devote the time to something that would be more productive of good, educationally, to the movement. Another point he wished to make was that the Survey Committee was a Congress Committee and could claim the right to report to Congress whether the Central Board approved or not. The Board had the right to attack the Survey Committee; and he had no doubt some members had the wish. They were told last year that this matter ought to be discussed throughout the societies and the conferences. It was because of the nature of the discussion that they had devoted some little time to the re-casting of some of their proposals, and he could assure the members of the Board that there would be no desire on the part of the Survey Committee to cause any delay; for they were all anxious that the business should be cleared up. They would ask Congress to allow them to surrender the matter to the Central Board; and then, he concluded, "May the Lord have mercy on your souls, because you have had none on ours."

Mrs. FOUND (South-Western Section) thought it was not necessary for the members of the Survey Committee to pose as martyrs. She submitted, as a business proposition, that it was unreasonable to expect representatives to go to Congress and discuss this report intelligently if the report was not to be in their hands till a fortnight before Congress. A conference was being held in her own section to deal with the proposals of the Survey Committee; the delegates would go back and tell their societies what the proposals of the Survey Committee were and the Congress delegates would be instructed. What was happening in her section would be happening in all; and although

the Survey Committee might feel sure about it the Congress would decide again to defer the decision if the committee were going to hold back their report.

Mr. J. PALMER (Irish Section) said the committee had gone considerably in advance of the instructions they received. Things were changing wonderfully, and he did not see why the committee did not finish the work given to it at its appointment. They had introduced new subjects they were not expected to deal with, and if the committee were going to follow all the changes their work would never come to an end. They should by this time have finished their report. If new circumstances arose, a new committee could be appointed if necessary; but the committee had no excuse for delaying their report.

Mr. MAJOR put a question as to Mr. Rae's claim to submit the report to the Congress without consulting the Central Board.

Mr. CHARTER objected to the report being submitted to the Congress before being submitted to the Central Board; but the Central Board should trust the Survey Committee to do their best. The report in the main would stand. There were again certain portions of the report that it would be necessary to alter to bring the report up to date. It was asked that the movement should be given a lead. Whether they liked it or not there was going to be some closer relationship between our organisations and it was necessary that the Central Board should give a lead rather than the movement force it upon them. The publications of the Co-operative Union, the amalgamations of capital, unrest, &c., had raised new conditions since the report was submitted last year.

Eventually, the matter was left over till the next meeting of the Board.

THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT.

Mr. W. R. BLAIR (North-Western Section), referring to the paragraph in the report relating to the Labour Department, inquired whether steps were being taken to secure representation on the new Trade Boards that were being set up for the bootmaking and dressmaking and other industries.

Mr. GREGORY also wished to know if the Labour Department was to be represented on these boards.

The CHAIRMAN said the United Board was trying to secure representation for both the official element of the Labour Department and the committee.

INTER-ALLIED CONFERENCE.

The CHAIRMAN had sent in resolutions which he suggested should be moved following the report on the Inter-Allied Conference; and it was agreed to add them to the report. The resolutions were as follows:—

- (a) That this Congress heartily supports the appeal issued by the Union to societies on behalf of the co-operative movement in the areas devastated by the war and calls upon every British

society to accord it the most generous assistance within their power.

- (b) That this Congress heartily approves of the establishment of an International Co-operative Bureau of Statistics and Commercial Information.
- (c) It also urges the necessity of setting up international trading relationships between the different countries, and to this end asks that a conference of wholesale societies should be convened with a view to establishing close commercial relations between the co-operators of the world.

RESOLUTIONS FOR CONGRESS.

Resolutions for Congress sent in by societies were considered. Several related to the Survey Committee's report and it was thought that these might have to be amended when the report of the Survey Committee was prepared.

Northampton Society had sent in a resolution to the effect that in a Parliamentary Division where the local societies were affiliated to the Labour Party, and the co-operative nominee became the Labour candidate, the said candidate should receive assistance from the Co-operative Parliamentary Fund.

The GENERAL SECRETARY pointed out that up till now that could not be done.

Mr. RAE asked if the resolution was in order. He thought the proper course for the society was to send in notice of motion for the alteration of the constitution of the Parliamentary Representation Committee.

The CHAIRMAN said it was not in order and he suggested that the society should be informed of this.

The BOARD agreed.

A question was asked about the Blackburn resolution relative to co-operative employees being permitted to remain at work during a strike.

The GENERAL SECRETARY: It has been dealt with and is now before the Trades Union Congress Parliamentary Committee. It will do no harm to go to Congress. It will strengthen our position there.

The BOARD agreed.

ON REPRESENTATION AT CONGRESS.

The GENERAL SECRETARY reported having received a letter from the National Co-operative Representation Committee on the question of representation at Congress. A resolution had been adopted recommending the Central Board to submit to Carlisle Congress a resolution amending the rules of the Co-operative Union to give the National Co-operative Representation Committee the right to be represented at Congress.

Mr. W. H. WATKINS (South-Western Section) said he would like to point out that the rules of the Union, as now framed, were framed before it was contemplated that the movement should go into politics. The

Congress had decided to go into politics; and the National Co-operative Representation Committee was constituted, and had been hard at work during the year. Proposals for future work were going to be put forward, hence the committee respectfully suggested that the rules of the Co-operative Union were capable of modification as regarded representation at Congress.

Mr. W. R. RAE (Northern Section): Would that include members of the Central Education Committee, which has been in existence longer than the National Co-operative Representation Committee?

Mr. WATKINS: We have no knowledge of the desires of the Central Education Committee in this matter, but we do feel that if this political work is worth carrying on the National Representation Committee are entitled to have a status at Congress.

Mr. G. MAJOR: At least half of the members will be there as delegates. I move we do not agree to the request.

Mr. A. PURDIE: I second.

Mr. W. R. BLAIR (North-Western Section) asked if the responsible officials should not be present at Congress in an official capacity, in case any question of business concerning their particular committees should arise.

The CHAIRMAN: It is obvious that chairmen of committees will always be at Congress.

Mr. BLAIR: When I say responsible officials, I mean such as the secretary.

Mr. WATKINS: I submit it is businesslike for committees concerned to be there at Congress in the event of anything of interest arising.

Mr. N. MCLEAN (Scottish Section): The resolution is entirely out of order. The National Committee is asking for representation as a separate entity.

The CHAIRMAN: But they are doing it constitutionally; and we say they are not out of order.

Mr. H. J. MAY (hon. member, Southern Section): You have a joint Parliamentary Committee already. It does not ask for and has not asked for, and has not received separate representation at the Congress. If its secretary is there as a representative, he can answer any question; and the same thing can be done by the National Co-operative Representation Committee.

Mr. BLAIR: I move an amendment that the secretary of each sub-committee attend Congress in an official capacity.

The GENERAL SECRETARY: He will be there.

The resolution was not carried.

CO-OPERATIVE EMPLOYEES AND PENSIONS.

The GENERAL SECRETARY also mentioned having received a letter from the Cambridge Society enclosing a resolution for Congress endorsing the principle of the establishment of a National Co-operative Employees Pension Fund as a memorial to employees who had fallen in the war.



PRELIMINARY PROCEEDINGS.

SATURDAY, 7th JUNE, 1919.

CENTRAL BOARD MEETING.

The Central Board held its usual Congress meeting in the Court-room at the Town Hall, Carlisle, on Saturday morning, 7th June. Alderman F. Hayward (chairman of the Board) presided, and he was supported by the general secretary (Mr. A. Whitehead) and the assistant secretary (Mr. T. Horrocks).

The following members of the Board were in attendance :—

IRISH SECTION.

Messrs. W. G. Kane, J. Palmer, and W. M. Knox (secretary).

MIDLAND SECTION.

Messrs. G. Bastard, J. Butcher, W. J. Douse, G. Harris, A. H. Jones, J. Langley, W. Millerchip, J. Millington, J. G. Shacklock, W. Warren, and C. A. W. Saxton (secretary).

NORTHERN SECTION.

Messrs. J. C. Aiston, G. Bedford, J. Davison, S. Gelbraith, M.P., W. R. Rae, G. Riddle, W. Scott, W. Crooks (hon. member), and A. Stoddart (secretary).

NORTH-WESTERN SECTION.

Messrs. W. R. Blair, E. Booth, G. Briggs, W. Dewhurst, S. Fairbrother, S. R. Foster, G. Goodenough, J. Greenwood, W. Gregory, F. Hayward, A. Horricks, F. Houghton, J. Johnston, G. Major, T. Redfearn, W. Swindlehurst, J. Thompson, T. Way, B. Woolfenden, and J. Bradshaw (secretary).

SCOTTISH SECTION.

Messrs. P. J. Agnew, P. Loney, J. Lucas, N. McLean, M.P., J. Patterson, A. Purdie, G. Wilson, and J. Deans (secretary).

SOUTHERN SECTION.

Messrs. J. H. Bate, W. T. Charter, M. H. Clear, S. Foulger, Mrs. M. A. Gasson, Messrs. A. Hainsworth, E. King, W. J. Salmon; E. O. Greening and H. J. May (hon. members); and B. Williams (secretary).

SOUTH-WESTERN SECTION.

Messrs. W. Brown, J. T. Davies, Mrs. M. Found, Messrs. R. Pearce, G. A. Ramsay, and W. H. Watkins.

WESTERN SECTION.

Messrs. W. H. Bryant, R. R. Chappell, J. P. Davies, D. Evans, J. L. Powell, D. Williams, and E. R. Wood (hon. member).

Also Professor F. Hall (Adviser of Studies), Messrs. C. E. Wood (secretary, Central Educational Committee); J. Pollitt (Labour Adviser), and S. F. Perry (secretary, National Committee of the Co-operative Party).

The minutes of the previous meeting, held 11th and 12th April, were confirmed.

SIR T. W. ALLEN.

The CHAIRMAN: Before proceeding with the ordinary business of the meeting I should like to suggest that as this is the first meeting of the Central Board since the chairman of the Joint Parliamentary Committee was honoured by the State, it would only be fitting on our part to send our heartiest congratulations to Sir Thomas Allen. I formally move from the chair accordingly.

MR. S. GALBRAITH, M.P. (Northern Section): In seconding, may I, through you (the chairman) say to Sir Thomas, "bright be the future which lies before you." The knighthood conferred upon him is an honour to the man and an honour to the movement.

The resolution was adopted.

APPOINTMENT OF TELLERS.

The CHAIRMAN: It has been suggested that Messrs. Saxton (secretary, Midland Section) and Horricks (North-Western Section) should act as tellers. ("Agreed.")

GRANTS TO THE WOMEN'S GUILDS.

It was resolved that the annual grant of £400 to the English Women's Guild be renewed.

The GENERAL SECRETARY read a letter from the secretary of the Scottish Women's Guild, making an appeal for an increase of £50 in the grant made to it by the Co-operative Union. At the present time it was £175. The

letter drew attention to the fact that the Guild had opened twelve new branches during this session, and that it had taken an active part on behalf of co-operative candidates in the last General Election. It was also pointed out that the present membership of the Guild was 16,698, and that on account of the war various items of expenditure had considerably increased.

Mr. J. LUCAS (Scottish Section): I move that the application be granted. When this question came before the Scottish Sectional Board we did not promise the Guild that we would support its application until we had fully considered the position. May I say that in view of the figures given by the secretary of the Guild, and comparing the position of the Guild now with what it was this time last year, it ought to have at least £75 more. In any case, I think the application ought to be granted.

Mrs. GASSON (Southern Section): I second the resolution.

Mr. W. R. BLAIR (North-Western Section): I think it would have been better had we had this letter from the Scottish Guild read before we made the grant to the English Guild. Then we might have considered whether the grant should be in proportion to membership.

Mr. A. PURDIE (Scottish Section): In working out the figures of the Guilds in England and in Scotland, we of the Scottish Sectional Board were clearly of the opinion that the Scottish Guild was entitled to an increase of £75, let alone £50. We are not asking for anything more for the Scottish Guild than what we think the English Guild is entitled to.

Mr. F. HOUGHTON (North-Western Section): One of the arguments used in favour of increasing the grant to the Scottish Guild had reference to increases in travelling and other charges. Cannot the same argument apply to the English Guild?

The GENERAL SECRETARY, in reply to a question: The membership of the English Guild is 32,908, and the present grant is £400. The Scottish Guild has a membership of 16,705, and last year it received from the Union £175.

Mr. W. MILLERCHIP (Midland Section): I move as an amendment that the grant to the Scottish Guild be increased to £200.

Mr. LUCAS: I am prepared to accept that.

Mr. W. GREGORY (North-Western Section): I think we ought rather to take into consideration the efficiency and character of the work done by the Guilds. In my opinion we shall be forming a somewhat dangerous precedent if we fix the amount of grant on membership. I am in favour of granting the application.

An increase of £25, making the grant for the year £200, was agreed to.

The GENERAL SECRETARY read a letter from the Irish Women's Guild, asking for the renewal of its grant, and in reply to questions said that the Guild had a membership of 935, and that the amount of the grant last year was £50.

Mr. J. PALMER (Irish Executive): In fixing the grant for the Scottish Guild we took into consideration the amount of work done. I think we

ought to do the same in regard to the Irish Guild, which covers an extensive area, extending from Belfast in the north to Cork in the south. I suggest we supplement the present grant by £50, making it £100, which is, in my opinion, little enough to assist the Guild in the work it proposes to do.

Mr. W. G. KANE (Irish Executive): I have very great pleasure in seconding the resolution.

Mr. MAJOR (North-Western Section): I move that the grant be increased to £75. I do not agree with the idea that the grant should be based on numbers, but on the character of work done.

Mr. W. R. RAE (Northern Section): To deal with mere numbers is dangerous. We should pay some attention to the scope of operations and the need for financial assistance.

It was agreed that the grant should be increased from £50 to £75.

The CHAIRMAN: I take it that these increases are subject to the resolution which we are bringing before Congress in favour of an increase in subscriptions to the Union, being adopted?

Several members of the Board observed that the increases to the Scottish and Irish Guilds had been adopted without any reference to the resolution mentioned by the chairman.

The CHAIRMAN: Unless Congress sanctions the proposed increase in subscriptions, I think it will be extremely unwise for the Union to increase its commitments, in view of the fact that it was £2,500 behind last year, and that the difference between income and expenditure is likely to be considerably more than that this year.

Mr. T. REDFEARN (North-Western Section): Congress may sanction the increase, and societies may not pay it, what then?

Mr. J. LUCAS: If these grants are to be subject to the increase in the rate of subscription to the Union, then I think other grants made quite recently by the United Board ought to be subject to the same proviso.

The CHAIRMAN: Where it is an increase over last year I agree with what you say.

It was then decided that the increases to the Scottish and Irish Women's Guilds should be conditional on the resolution referred to by the chairman receiving the approval of Congress.

SCOTTISH DISTRICT COUNCIL OF THE MEN'S GUILD.

The GENERAL SECRETARY: We have received a letter from the Scottish District Council of the Men's Guild, drawing attention to the far-reaching activities of the Guild, and asking if the Co-operative Union could see its way to grant the organisation some financial assistance. The Guild depended for its financial resources upon a subscription of 2d. per member, with an occasional donation from a well disposed society. No salaries or fees were granted to officials, and the granting of honorariums almost exhausted the exchequer in the spring. The letter also drew attention to the fact that the Union made an annual grant of £175 to the Scottish Women's Guild.

A reply had been sent pointing out that the Men's Guild was in an entirely different position to the Women's Guild, that the Central Education Committee met any deficit in the accounts of the National Men's Guild, and that if any district council or branch desired financial assistance it should make application to the executive of the National Men's Guild.

It was decided that the reply of the general secretary be approved, and that no grant be made.

SUGGESTED ALTERATION IN THE AGENDA.

Mr. W. R. RAE (Northern Section): I appeal to the chairman to alter the agenda. The wholesale societies' deputation means to speak on some points of the Survey Report, and it would be better to take the Survey Report first, and discuss it and fortify ourselves with a knowledge of it before we meet the deputation which will either approve or attack it.

The CHAIRMAN: This was considered by the Office Committee.

Mr. W. T. CHARTER (Southern Section): May we have the letter from the Co-operative Wholesale Society, asking for a deputation to be received?

The GENERAL SECRETARY read the letter.

Mr. G. MAJOR (North-Western Section): I move that the agenda be carried out as arranged. If we hear what the Co-operative Wholesale Society has to say we shall be in a position to discuss the whole matter.

Mr. CHARTER seconded and said: I would suggest that, if necessary, we should confer with the Boards of the wholesale societies after we have discussed the reports in the Central Board and before it comes before Congress.

Mr. Major's motion was agreed to.

INCOME TAX INQUIRY COMMITTEE.

Without discussion, the suggestion of the Joint Parliamentary Committee that Mr. T. Brodrick (secretary of the Co-operative Wholesale Society) should be added to the Special Committee of Inquiry on Income Tax, was passed.

NIGHT BAKING.

The Board then considered letters from Midland and North-Western sections *re* Scottish Sectional Board's reply to Ministry of Labour on night baking.

The GENERAL SECRETARY: The Scottish Section has stated in its letter on the question of night baking that the co-operative movement is not a trading institution. These two sections have some remarks to make on it.

Mr. W. R. BLAIR (North-Western Section): We feel, with all respect, that the Scottish Section in this matter was either under a misapprehension or there was misunderstanding somewhere. The representatives here assembled are representatives of the distributive co-operative societies, and we must represent the retail portions of the co-operative movement

as well as any other portions. The Scottish Section has expressed something that other people have expressed and we have disclaimed. We think attention should be called to this matter in order that it might be made clear that the Co-operative Union is representative of the trading organisations.

Mr. J. MILLINGTON (Midland Section): We only think that we do, and ought to, represent the trading side, and that the Scottish Section has missed the point that this gives us a national opportunity of offering our point of view on this question.

Mr. G. WILSON: On behalf of the Scottish Section I want to say that we do not wish it to be understood that we have no sympathy, but what weighed with the Section was that while the Union is not a trading body it had adequate representation in Mr. Pollitt, our Labour Adviser, and we had Mr. Young (manager, United Co-operative Baking Society), one of the strongest witnesses we could have had. That was what was in the mind of the Scottish Section, and we thought it inadvisable as a Union to give evidence with those who were doing the same work, because you can nullify the work by having too many.

Mr. J. LUCAS: The Scottish Section has been very busy in this matter, and this would have meant additional representation. The remark did not mean that we had not been represented because we did not take direct action.

Mr. BLAIR: I am quite satisfied with the explanation, but the minute does not seem to represent your position.

RESOLUTIONS BY SOCIETIES.

Proceeding to consider the resolutions for Congress sent in by societies.

Mr. W. R. BLAIR (referring to the first resolution on the Programme of Co-operative Political Policy, submitted by Manchester and Salford Equitable Society) said: It is very detailed, and as an old politician I prefer not to be tied down to details. Paragraph 4 is very detailed; it talks of growing vegetables. It is a wonder they have not detailed the vegetables we have to grow.

Mr. W. H. WATKINS (South-Western Section): The National Representation Committee have considered the various proposals contained herein, and they were all of the opinion that generally the programme already adopted covered these points, and have expressed the same opinion as Mr. Blair, that it was not desirable to enter into details.

Mr. W. MILLERCHIP (Midland Section): Have we any right to interfere with or alter a resolution?

The CHAIRMAN: Not to alter.

Mr. S. F. PERRY (secretary, National Representation Committee): I want to explain, on behalf of my committee, that Resolutions 1, 2, and 3, as you will find, deal with political aspects, and my committee have considered them and they are opposing the whole three.

Mr. J. LUCAS (Scottish Section): Is there any point in bringing this up?

The CHAIRMAN: In order that we may consider whether we should recommend for or against. Where we take no action it is left to the free vote of Congress.

Mr. J. MILLINGTON (Midland Section): I move that in the first three we support the Parliamentary Representation Committee. If we express an opinion here let us do it by vote, and we will know where we are.

Mr. C. A. W. SXTON (National Representation Committee) seconded.

Mr. T. REDFERN (North-Western Section): I move that we separate the resolutions, for some may vote for one and not for the others.

This was done, and the first three resolutions were voted upon separately and rejected.

In the discussion on Resolution 4 by Barry Society, on Consolidated Reserve Fund,

Mr. J. PATTERSON (Scottish Section) said: I do not think we can support number 4, as it does away with local responsibility, for if societies thought there were reserves to be used they would not exercise care and would not trouble themselves about the matter.

Mr. G. GOODENOUGH (North-Western Section) seconded.

Mr. W. R. BLAIR: There is another word to say on this question. I think, generally speaking, when small societies get into difficulties, if such a fund was established and there was a certain amount of assistance to be forthcoming from the co-operative movement generally, it would give the Co-operative Union a chance to intervene with some authority. I do not agree, however, with the cut and dried method of this resolution.

Mr. A. PURDIE (Scottish Section): We have considerable experience in Scotland in dealing with societies in this respect, and we think it would be much better if we had a consolidated fund to draw from to assist societies.

The CHAIRMAN: I do not think it would be competent to adopt Mr. Blair's suggestion, as it would involve an amendment.

Mr. BLAIR: The whole matter should be referred back for negotiation with the United or Central Board.

Mr. G. WILSON: To consult the movers and compromising?

The CHAIRMAN: That is so.

Mr. W. R. RAE (Northern Section): I think we all know the weakness of the Union through its lack of economic power, and I think there might be an interview with the people from Barry and our General Secretary, and that Congress should be told that there is something in the resolution, and that the matter should be left to the Board to take it up.

LAND NATIONALISATION.

The following resolution sent in by the St. Cuthbert's (Edinburgh), Brightside and Carbrook, Bristol, Failsforth, Great Grimsby, Middlesbrough, and other societies, was then considered:—

That this Congress considers that the present system of private property in land ought to be abolished inasmuch as it hampers

production, taxes industry for the benefit of non-workers, makes land difficult of access and insecure of tenure. It also causes overcrowding, checks public improvement, and gives to irresponsible private individuals injurious power over the lives and liberties of others. This Congress therefore demands that the land be made national property under the administration of representative local authorities so that it may be put to the best use in the interests of the whole community.

Alderman J. JOHNSTON (North-Western Section): Should not the resolution passed by the Central Board at its last meeting in favour of land nationalisation have taken its place on the programme as a recommendation of the Central Board, in precedence to the resolutions sent in by societies?

The GENERAL SECRETARY: It was decided that a resolution should be sent to Congress, but when this particular resolution was sent in by close upon a hundred societies, I thought it was not necessary to draft another resolution in the name of the Central Board. If the Central Board approves of that resolution it will put the matter in order.

The resolution was then approved.

NATIONAL EMPLOYEES' PEACE PENSION FUND.

The Cambridge Society submitted the following:—

That this Congress endorses the principle of the establishment by the movement of a National Co-operative Employees' Peace Pension Fund as a memorial to those employees who have fallen in the war, and as a means of commemorating the declaration of peace.

Mr. W. T. CHARTER (Southern Section): I would like the Central Board to give its support to this resolution, and I move that we approve it.

Rev. G. A. RAMSAY (South-Western Section): It seems to me that this resolution contradicts the resolution passed at our last meeting. There is already a resolution before the movement that the peace memorial should take the form of a co-operative college.

Mr. J. MILLINGTON (Midland Section): I deprecate the use of the word "peace" in connection with a fund, and suggest that we express an opinion on the principle of the resolution and leave out the word "peace."

Mr. W. T. CHARTER: The composite resolution sent in to the Co-operative Wholesale Society, contains no mention of "peace" at all, and we should be quite willing to have an expression of opinion on the principle of the resolution.

Mr. J. PALMER (Irish Section): I think it considerably past the time when such a fund should have been established. We should give our employees some assurance that they will have something to sustain them in their old age; but I object to describing it as a "peace" memorial.

Mr. R. R. CHAPPELL (Western Section): I consider that we should leave the question alone altogether. As trade-unionists we are called upon

to pay to our own superannuation, and we are being called upon to pay towards the superannuation of those who will not pay their own.

Mr. RAE: I move that the Cambridge Society have the privilege of altering the resolution as suggested by Mr. Charter.

Mr. G. WILSON (Scottish Section): I second that; and the proposal was adopted.

Mr. CHARTER said the resolution would be altered to read "Superannuation Fund for Co-operative Employees," instead of "National Co-operative Employees' Peace Pension Fund."

Mr. J. LUCAS (Scottish Section): I suggest that we should let the resolution come before Congress without any recommendation.

A motion that the Central Board recommend approval of the resolution was lost, and it was agreed that it should go before Congress without any expression of opinion.

CO-OPERATIVE EMPLOYEES REMAINING AT WORK DURING STRIKES.

The Blackburn Industrial Society submitted the following resolution, which was approved by the Central Board without discussion:—

In the opinion of this Congress the time has arrived when definite conditions as to co-operative employees being permitted to remain at work during any strike in which any group or groups of employees are called upon to cease work in sympathy with others, should be agreed upon between organised labour and co-operative societies; and it calls upon the Co-operative Union to approach the Trades Union Congress, through the Joint Committee, or otherwise, with a view to such conditions being formulated and put into practice as early as possible.

DISTRICT CONCILIATION BOARDS.

The following resolution from the Leek and Moorlands Society was also approved without discussion:—

That the constitution of the District Conciliation Boards be amended so as to preclude persons sitting as members of the Conciliation Board who have previously been negotiating with the cases when before the societies, or Hours and Wages Board. Also that provision be made for an independent chairman to be brought in to preside over the Board with power to vote.

CO-OPERATIVE COLLEGE.

The Walsall Society's resolution, which was as follows, was next considered:—

That this Congress is of opinion that a Co-operative College is essential to the welfare and development of the Co-operative Movement, and that no worthier memorial of the Peace and

of those co-operators who have served and fallen in the war could be established than an institution for the dissemination of the principles of co-operation and harmony in industrial and international relationship.

It therefore instructs the Central Board to organise a fund forthwith for the establishment of such a college to which co-operators and co-operative organisations may be invited to subscribe.

Mr. E. O. GREENING (Hon. Member): There is a resolution to be proposed by the Educational Committee, and I think it pretty well covers the ground. At the same time, I hope this Congress will signalise itself by approving of the starting of a co-operative college.

The GENERAL SECRETARY: The other resolution is not the same as this one.

Mr. GREENING: I would suggest that the Walsall Society be allowed the same privilege that you have allowed the Cambridge Society, so that they will not give Congress the feeling that we should do nothing in regard to this as a war memorial.

Mr. W. R. RAE (Northern Section): I think we can manage to arrange with Walsall that this resolution should be merged in the one proposed by the Central Education Committee.

Mr. W. H. WATKINS (South-Western Section): The Education Committee resolution will come before this one. The only point that may remain to be dealt with is whether the college shall take the form of a war memorial or not. I would suggest that the Central Board leave the question to Congress. I move this.

This proposal was approved.

PURCHASING POWER, EDUCATION, AND RELIGIOUS TEACHING.

Mr. A. HAINSWORTH (Southern Section): I move that the Central Board ask Congress not to accept the following resolution from Grimshaw Park Society:—

That this Congress, in order that the purchasing power of all co-operators shall be equalised, demands that no efficient school shall be excluded from the fullest educational advantages on the ground that, in addition to teaching other subjects, it also undertakes to give definite religious teaching.

Mrs. GASSON seconded.

The CHAIRMAN: It is only due to Congress that attention should be called to the fact that this resolution was before Congress last year, and was lost by an overwhelming majority.

Mr. J. LUCAS: In Scotland this has already been provided for; and I understood it was also provided for in England.

Mr. R. J. AGNEW (Scottish Section): The danger is that we can not do anything either for or against. In view of the fact that Congress gave

its decision last year, the resolution should be ruled out of order for this year.

Mr. P. LONEY : In Scotland religious education is allowed in the school without interference.

Mr. A. HAINSWORTH : At the present time religious instruction in schools has to be paid for by the denomination whose denominational teaching is given.

Mr. R. PEARCE (South-Western Section) : Is it not a fact that we, as co-operators, stand for non-sectarian teaching in all schools ? As co-operators we should go as far as to exclude all religious teaching in the schools, for as long as we have anything in the way of religious teaching we are making religious tests for the teachers. We should make it known to the world that we stand for secular teaching in the schools. Although we have a religious State, I would like teachers to be free from religious tests of any kind.

Mrs. GASSON : Can Mr. Rae explain the latest provisions of the Education Act ?

Mr. RAE excused himself from this task. The resolution is an attempt on the part of extremists in religious education, rather than religious teaching, to get in the thin end of the wedge.

It was then resolved that the suggestion that the matter be rejected be approved.

NATIONAL DEBT.

The question as to what should be the attitude of the Board at Congress towards a resolution sent in by the Burton-on-Trent Society was next considered. The resolution was as follows :—

That in the opinion of this Congress, the enormous National Debt necessitating huge annual payments of interest and sinking fund constitutes a serious hindrance to Industrial and Social Reconstruction and a menace to the prosperity of these islands, and is a burden which should not be thrown upon future generations ; the Congress therefore demands that the Government at once reduce this debt by the imposition of a levy on capital, such levy to apply to individual properties, less than £1,000 to be exempt, and a graduated scale to be imposed above that sum.

Several members of the Board moved that "we do not approve of it."

Mr. S. F. PERRY (National Co-operative Representation Committee) : I would seriously suggest that the Board take this matter into consideration. It is exercising the minds of a good many people just now, and is likely to become a very live political matter in the near future. It is not fair that we should penalise future generations by leaving them to pay for this awful blunder.

Other members of the Board were evidently of opinion that the resolution

should not be sent forward to Congress, but they were informed by the chairman and secretary that the Board had not the power to take the course suggested. The resolution had been sent in according to the rules of the Union, and all the Board could do was to recommend to Congress its approval or rejection.

MR. W. MILLERCHIP (Midland Section): I agree to the principle of the resolution, but how is it going to be put into operation? What, in the first place, is capital?

A MEMBER of the Board: We adopted a resolution on almost identical lines at the meeting we held at Manchester in August last.

MR. MILLERCHIP (proceeding): If we commit ourselves to a resolution of this character without being able to clearly define how it is to be put into operation, and thereby justify our position, we shall be placing ourselves in a ridiculous position.

MR. N. MCLEAN (Scottish Section): I agree to this levy on capital, and to what has been said by the secretary of the Parliamentary Representation Committee, that we should not shirk our burden by placing it on the shoulders of other people—we ought to pay for the blunder ourselves. Mr. Millerchip asks for some idea as to what a levy on capital means in practice. If he will get a copy of the amendment which the Labour Party moved to the Finance Act, he will find a complete plan for putting the suggested levy into practice. I think co-operators ought to take up a prominent attitude on this question.

MR. W. H. WATKINS (South-Western Section): I would also like to draw attention to the fact that if Congress accepts the report of the Central Board meeting held in August last, then it is committed to the principle contained in the Burton-on-Trent Society's resolution. Whilst the resolution is, therefore, unnecessary, may I suggest that it be left to the Standing Orders Committee to determine what attitude should be adopted after the report of the Central Board has been passed?

MR. G. WILSON (Scottish Section): We are clearly committed to the principle of a levy on capital. We should be quite clear about the point we are discussing. A direct tax on the individual and a tax on capital are two different things.

MR. J. LUCAS: If you attempt this levy for big sums it will come down to the little sums—the sums which come within the scope of the income tax. I have never yet seen a plan for distinguishing between the different kinds of levy. So far as the wholesale societies and individual societies are concerned it may be easy to make a levy on them, but what about other forms of capital?

MR. W. R. BLAIR (North-Western Section): Some members of the Board seem to think that this paragraph in the report of our meeting last August does not apply. The resolution which we then adopted states quite definitely, "by a direct tax on incomes and on all stored wealth."

Therefore, it does apply, and we have agreed to the principle in the Burton-on-Trent Society's resolution.

Mr. G. MAJOR: I think we should refrain from taking any definite action in this matter. I have not yet seen a practical scheme for imposing a levy on capital.

Mr. W. T. CHARTER (Southern Section): I am going to query the Central Board's report on page 31. It says, "by a direct tax and on all stored wealth." The word "or" should be in instead of "on," making the sentence read "by a direct tax on incomes or on all stored wealth."

Mr. B. WILLIAMS (secretary, Southern Section): "All" is an inclusive term. It is intended to catch all—to catch men with capital and big incomes, which is not necessarily stored-up wealth.

The GENERAL SECRETARY: I believe Mr. Charter is right, but I will look the matter up, and if an error has crept in I will correct it.

It was finally decided that the resolution should go forward to Congress without any recommendation from the Board.

NORTH-WESTERN SECTION.

The various resolutions regarding the division of the North-Western Section formed the next item on the programme, and it was agreed to ask Congress to adopt the one from the Sectional Board, which was to the effect that a decision on the question should be deferred until the Survey Committee had reported on the subject of boundaries as it applied to the whole of the movement.

WHOLESALE SOCIETIES' DEPUTATION.

At this point the deputation from the wholesale societies' boards was introduced. The Co-operative Wholesale Society was represented by Messrs. T. Killon (chairman), T. Brodrick (secretary), G. Thorpe and T. J. Henson, and the Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society by Messrs. Robert Stewart (president), J. Pearson (secretary), and W. R. Allan.

The CHAIRMAN, addressing the deputation, said: The Board very readily consented to receive you, and I express an apology that we are a little after the time. We should be very pleased to hear what you have to say in regard to the Survey Report.

Mr. T. KILLON, who was received with applause, said: We are grateful to you for receiving the deputation. Our objective is a simple but far-reaching one. On the 13th of March we met a deputation, and after a most interesting discussion on various points we arrived at what we believed to be a definition of their views of certain terms of the Report. If the Central Board agree with these terms, that is all that we require. It is as to the precise meaning of the first paragraph of the resolution adopted last year on the Reconstruction of the Joint Parliamentary Committee, on page 69 of the Report. This states "that the Parliamentary interests of the co-operative movement as regards administration and legislation should be delegated

to a committee responsible to the Co-operative Union." The deputation would like the Co-operative Union to define whether this refers only to the propaganda and ethical side of the movement, and does not in any sense include the trading and industrial organisation. If the Central Board agree to that definition, that is all we want. I would like to say that there was never a time in the history of the movement when it was more desirable than at present that we should go to Congress with a united front. And it can be done effectively if we understand each other. I do not think we have met often enough.

The CHAIRMAN: This is rather difficult to deal with, as the Central Board had not reached that point.

A MEMBER: May I ask Mr. Killon if there is any idea or suggestion that he would submit as an amendment.

Mr. T. KILLON: That is a matter for yourselves. I may say, however, that what we would like is to keep trade free as far as possible from the propaganda and ethical side of the movement.

Mr. T. J. HENSON: We have agreed that we cannot hold ourselves responsible for the suggestion made by the Survey Committee, and we have nothing whatever to do with it, but we say that if it is to be carried out we are prepared to take our share. We want a better understanding; we want to work together for the good of both institutions, and we are prepared, if the Central Board approve of this, to do our share of the work. What we want to know briefly is, "do the Central Board approve of the suggestion made by the Constitutional Sub-Committee in the Addendum?"

Mr. STEWART: The Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society was not present at the meeting and knew nothing about the decision. But speaking in a general way our views are on the lines laid down by Mr. Killon. We were never considered.

The ASSISTANT SECRETARY: The Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society were communicated with in the first instance in exactly the same terms as the English Society, and we had an acknowledgment of our communication, and a promise that it would be brought before the Committee. Since then we have heard nothing further.

Mr. STEWART: I was not there at that time, and I only gathered my information from my colleagues.

Mr. McLEAN: In the event of any matter arising necessitating the taking of Parliamentary action and affecting trade or industrial matters in the movement, would these things be taken up by the Joint Parliamentary Committee, or considered by a Special Committee of the Wholesale Society?

Mr. KILLON: So far as the Wholesale Society is concerned, we want to deal with trade ourselves. The retail societies are independent and will take such action as they themselves think fit.

Mr. McLEAN: We have already established a Parliamentary Committee. It acts as the vehicle through which the interests of the whole movement are brought before Parliamentary representatives. What I

want to know is : In the event of the definition being given as Mr. Killon asks, does it mean that the Parliamentary Committee, as it exists so far as the wholesale societies are concerned, will not be looked upon by them as the vehicle for conveying their Parliamentary affairs ?

Mr. KILLON : That is a very legitimate interpretation of it.

Mr. RAE : The members of the Central Board feel themselves to some extent in an unknown land. The gentlemen who represent the Wholesale Society are not aware that the Central Board has had very little opportunity of reading the final Survey Report, and it is within the bounds of possibility that they might not easily be able to grasp the proposals suggested. With reference to the deputation from the Survey Committee to the wholesale societies, they went with suggestions regarding constitution and administration as laid down in pages 125, 126, and 127 of the Survey Report, and they had no mandate to speak on any other matter. They were careful to give expressions only of their personal opinions. But the assurance we gave you (the wholesale societies) then, I give you now. Neither the Central Board nor the Survey Committee wish to do anything that will prevent the most cordial relationship between the wholesale societies and the Central Board. If there are any points which there is difficulty about, those points should be cleared up by amicable discussion. The Survey Committee, in putting this forward, are anxious to strengthen the co-operative effort. I suggest that the wholesale societies should meet a deputation from the Central Board round a table and thrash the matter out. In a large body such as we are at present, it will be almost impossible to deal with this subject as it should be dealt with.

Mr. W. H. WATKINS : May I point out that the co-operative movement is now represented in Parliament, and in the future may be more strongly represented.

Mr. J. DAVISON : I have received the impression that the wholesale societies wish to be treated in an exceptional way.

Mr. ALLAN (Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society) : I suggest that it would be advisable when Congress came to deal with this question that the Central Board should recommend it to be referred back for a time in order that the Wholesale Boards and representatives of the Union should discuss the matter.

Mr. J. MILLINGTON : May I ask if the wholesale societies' deputation will be prepared to express an opinion on the Survey Committee's Report on page 126 ?

Mr. KILLON (Co-operative Wholesale Society) : No one recognises more than the wholesale societies that co-operative Parliamentary representation is bound to be greater in future than it has been in the past. It cannot be less. The wholesale societies do not want exceptional treatment, but there are certain trade matters which require consideration. We recognise the trend of events, and all that we want when we appear before Congress is a better front than we have presented for some time past.

The CHAIRMAN: Two things are apparently being confused. We are attaching to a resolution of the Central Board a decision on a remark of the Survey Committee. In dealing with page 69 of the Central Board report, we cannot bring in something which occurs on page 126 in another book.

Mr. W. GREGORY: The addendum to the Survey Committee's report includes the recommendation of the Central Board. We provide for a Parliamentary and a political committee, and we ought to make it clear that it is one of the committees.

The CHAIRMAN then thanked the deputation for their attendance and they withdrew.

FINANCES OF THE UNION.

The CHAIRMAN: In connection with the accounts I have a letter here addressed to myself from the auditor, in which he calls attention to the fact that the expenditure during the past year has exceeded the income by £2,000. He also suggests that the sub-committees responsible for the work of the Union should exercise more complete supervision over the accounts to the same extent as when the work was less formidable than it is to-day. I move that we refer the letter to the Office Committee. ("Agreed.")

INTERNATIONAL TRADING.

Mr. E. O. GREENING (Hon. Member): We have a resolution coming before Congress regarding international trading relationships, and asking that a conference of the wholesale societies should be convened. I have been wondering whether it is not possible for us to adopt the Productive Federation's amendment, which is to the effect that the Federation should be given representation at the suggested conference. I think it is only fair to the productive societies in the movement that the Federation should also be called into that conference. If you agree to this, there need be no discussion at Congress.

Mr. W. R. RAE: The Federation does its banking with the Wholesale Society, and will have its representation at the conference in that way. I think it would be far better to leave the resolution as it is.

Mr. E. O. GREENING: The object of the conference, according to the resolution, is the setting up of close commercial relations between the co-operators of the world. The Productive Federation says, "let us be heard in that conference." Why should we refuse the request of the Federation? Surely there can be no harm done in letting the Federation have representation at the conference, and in that way preserve the united front which we present to the co-operators of the world. The wholesale societies can scarcely resent the presence of the Federation at the conference.

Mr. W. MILLERCHIP: I quite agree with Mr. Greening. We want to have all phases of interests in our movement producing and manufacturing articles represented at the conference, and if the Productive Federation is not represented, as representing the co-partnership societies, it will be a

huge blunder and mistake. Why should the Federation be eliminated or prevented from giving to this conference the benefit of its experience and advice, and taking part in the discussions? It will be a mistake and fatal to the best interests of the movement if the Federation is not represented on behalf of the co-partnership societies.

The amendment sent in by the Productive Federation was accepted.

SURVEY COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

The CHAIRMAN, introducing the subject, said: May I suggest in regard to the Addendum, that in view of what has gone before, I think we should ask Congress to refer the whole matter to the Central Board, so that the question of the wholesale societies should be considered, and specific resolutions put forward next year, and changes made as they think desirable.

Mr. W. MILLERCHIP (Midland Section): I agree it will be necessary to defer discussion, because it will be perfectly impossible to devote proper time at this Congress, but it does appear to me we ought to get a move on before next Congress, and I think, seeing this is a special matter requiring much time and attention you should have a special Congress in four or six months' time, to consider the full report and devote the whole time for two or three days to that object.

Mrs. GASSON (Southern Section): Is it not absolutely necessary that an agenda of the discussion should be sent out to the societies at least three months before the next Congress. I think it is unfair to bring it before them at a minute's notice.

Mr. W. T. CHARTER (Southern Section): I am in favour of it being referred back for 12 months, in order that societies may discuss it, and in order that we can come to some agreement with the wholesale societies. I think there is going to be a closer union between the two bodies, and if we don't agree that it will be forced on outside. I ask you, in referring back this particular portion of the report, is it the intention to refer back also the recommendations in regard to the reconstruction of the Parliamentary Committee? In regard to the wholesale societies I hope we won't give in too hastily. If we suspend the matter perhaps the situation will have changed to a different position, created by the food question. If you do it now you are giving the wholesale societies the finest opportunity of having a Parliamentary Committee, for the food situation is going to be worse within the next 12 months than in any period of the war, owing to the too early removal of control and the competition caused by the raising of the blockade. Let us consider for 12 months the Addendum and the alteration of the Parliamentary representation constitution, before we create anything.

Mr. R. R. CHAPPELL (Western Section): Let us know what the Addendum is. Mr. Rae said the wholesale societies and the Central Board did not know what it was. Until a few days ago we had not heard of this Addendum Report, although the interview was on 13th March. Why is the Central Board kept ignorant of this decision? At the last Congress we had

the same questions to remit to societies. We make ourselves ridiculous. We refer this question back time after time, and we refer this Addendum back before we know anything about it.

Mr. W. R. RAE (Northern Section): It is not right to say the Wholesale Society came to an agreement in March, for they deferred the question, and we do not know the Wholesale's decision yet.

Mr. G. WILSON (Scottish Section): I think it would be well to defer many of the proposals. Under present circumstances the food position is so serious that I think the coming winter is going to be worse than during the war. The present constitution of the Parliamentary Committee has been, with difficulty, put into shape, and a sub-committee dealing with retail societies has met the case well. I have a difficulty in finding whether the committee's functions can be defined. The wholesale societies claim to deal with trade only, and it is difficult where to draw the line.

Mr. G. A. RAMSAY (South-Western Section): The situation will be very serious if we go to Congress without some definite suggestion. If we go with a suggestion that the matter should be deferred again, I do not think Congress will accept it. The whole movement is waiting to go forward, and it cannot go forward until the Survey Committee's report has been accepted. We should say definitely that a special congress should be held within six months, to consider the Survey Committee's report, and within three months all negotiations should take place. I move: "That there be a special congress within six months to receive the Survey Committee's final report, with the understanding that the Survey Committee will give us their final report in three months."

The GENERAL SECRETARY: The Survey Committee had prepared a resolution to submit to the Central Board but they thought there should be some discussion on the report first. I will read the resolution which is as follows:—

- (a) That the reports of the General Survey Committee be received.
- (b) That the Central Board be instructed to arrange for the several reports to be discussed at specially convened sectional and district conferences to be held within a period of six months.
- (c) That the Publications Committee be instructed to issue the reports in suitable form, and to prepare literature in pamphlet form explanatory of the proposals and recommendations made by the Survey Committee; and
- (d) That a special congress be held in February, 1920, for the purpose of (1) Adopting or otherwise the proposals and recommendations included in the reports of the General Survey Committee submitted to this and preceding Congresses, and resolutions of the district and sectional conferences and societies referred to above being circulated to societies along with the notice convening the special congress; and (2) Instructing

the Central Board to prepare the necessary alterations of the rules of the Co-operative Union as may be necessary to make them harmonise with the recommendations of rules to be submitted to the 1920 Congress.

Mr. A. HAINSWORTH (Southern Section): I move, "That this Board adopts the recommendation of the Survey Committee to submit that resolution to Congress." The Survey Committee's recommendation is to the effect that they have finished their work and the final report should be placed in the hands of the Central Board.

A MEMBER of the Board seconded.

Mr. J. LUCAS (Scottish Section): In Scotland we have discussed this question until societies are tired of it. I do not see why it should not be presented at Congress. There is not so much change as compared with the changes previously suggested. The question is asked: "Why were these proposals scrapped?" Simply because the Survey Committee had heard criticisms of the proposals. We shall simply disgust societies if we delay the matter further.

Mr. J. MILLINGTON (Midland Section): We have considered the first, second, third, and fourth reports, but we have not had an opportunity of considering the final report. In my opinion there is a very important principle which the Survey Committee propose to "scrap," and that is the principle of a full-time executive. If there is one thing revealed by the war it is that we have been behind in giving advice to societies. I want to set up a machine as quickly as possible that will accomplish the work of the Union in a satisfactory manner.

Mr. W. MILLERCHIP (Midland Section): We should be frank and honest. We have fronting us a set of things which is not at all creditable to the co-operative movement. A breach has been made between the Wholesale Society and the Co-operative Union, and that breach has continued to widen. We should do something to bring about co-ordination and united action between the two sections of the movement. We shall have to work in conjunction with the Wholesale Society, or we are going to be swallowed by the Wholesale Society ultimately. Whilst there cannot be any desire on the Co-operative Wholesale Society's part to interfere with the Union's work, there is gradually growing up overlapping, which can be prevented only by common action in regard to these problems, and if this course is adopted it will lead to unity of action and future success.

Mr. A. H. JONES (Midland Section): I am delighted with the way Mr. Millerchip has spoken. It is the first straightforward speech on this question I have had the pleasure of listening to since I have been a member of the Central Board. He tells us that a breach is coming between the Union and the Wholesale Society; and before coming to a decision on this particular question, it is well that we, as representatives of the Co-operative Union, should know the exact position in which we stand. Is it not a fact that the Survey Committee has been attempting month after month to

get the Wholesale Society's committee to meet it to discuss the various questions raised in the report which affect that body. And is it not also a fact that it was not until the Union had been bold enough to take certain steps which brought it very much to the front, including entering into the political field, that the Wholesale Society realised we were a force that had to be reckoned with? Did they consent to meet the Survey Committee? I do not know whether the position in which we find ourselves this morning, in receiving a deputation from the wholesale societies, is altogether so pleasing as perhaps we thought it would be. We applauded the members of the deputation when they entered the room, and also when they left; but the impression which remains with me is that the wholesale societies are only prepared to meet the Central Board when they feel they have something at stake. If the principles of this Union are worth anything then surely we are going to stand up and fight for them. I have every respect for the Co-operative Wholesale Society's Board, but I also realise that the dignity of our own Board has to be upheld.

With regard to the suggested new constitution, there is one thing which Mr. Millerchip did not mention, and that is the question of introducing the system of co-opting members upon our various committees, and if we once commence this business do we know where it is going to end. If the Wholesale Society's directors are not prepared to meet the Survey Committee without tremendous pressure, then it appears to me they are taking up a more autocratic position than did His Majesty's Government when it was asked to receive a deputation from the co-operative movement. The only object I have in rising, is to ask the Board to seriously consider whether it is not worth while going to our own Congress prepared to support our own principles. If we believe the Survey Committee's report is on right lines let us ask Congress to support it and be prepared to fight, even though the Wholesale Society's directors do not agree with what is contained in the report.

Mr. G. MAJOR (North-Western Section): I protest against the Union's activities being wasted by constant tinkering. I do not know how many years ago this body was constituted to put us right. Emerson said: "Things move in cycles." The Survey Committee have kept round the same point at which they started. For four years we have considered these recommendations, and where are we? The only new idea in the recommendations is the Labour Committee, which was already covered by the Agriculture Committee. I have not read it, but I suppose it will refer to allotments, and the rest is, "As you were." I submit the time has arrived when, in the interest of the progress of the movement, we should get rid of the Survey Committee.

Mr. RAE: Hear, hear.

Mr. MAJOR: I am pleased to hear Mr. Rae saying, "Hear, hear," to that, for they are the stumbling block to activity, and when we have done that we can get rid of their report. I suggest that we take out recommendations of value—I fear they will be few—and let societies, *not sections*, have

an opportunity, with the Central Board, to consider these, and then settle the matter finally at our next Congress. I do not see anything to justify a special congress. You only get a lot of speeches, and there is nothing that cannot be dealt with efficiently at next Congress. I move that we recommend to Congress the same as the Parliamentary Committee.

Mr. PURDIE seconded.

Mr. RAE (Northern Section): A member of the Board admits that he has not read the report, and states the report is a constant tinkering; and our friend on the left said the Scottish people had considered the question until they were sick. There are twelve sections they have not seen. There should be a wise and careful scrutiny, for the people on the Survey Committee will stand or fall on the well of wisdom of the Survey report. You cannot grasp it, for you have not read it sufficiently, and I must complain of the poor thanks given to the Survey Committee.

Mr. MAJOR: I object to Mr. Rae saying that the Central Board has not read the report.

Mr. E. O. GREENING (Hon. Member): I have been a fighting man in my time and have felt the joy of battle; but I realise that there are difficulties to be got over just now, and they can be got over only by tact and special consideration. Mr. Rae should not mind a little captious criticism. I have followed with deep interest the work of the Survey Committee, and I cordially thank them for their work. I support the suggestion of the Survey Committee.

Mr. A. HORRICKS (North-Western Section) asked a question in regard to the instructions to the Publications Committee, and the General Secretary said the Central Board would not meet for some time, and it was in order to get the work in hand immediately that it was proposed to refer the matter to the Publications Committee.

Mr. D. EVANS (Western Section): Has the Addendum been before the full Survey Committee?

The ASSISTANT SECRETARY: Yes.

Mr. EVANS: How many were there?

The ASSISTANT SECRETARY: Seven or eight.

Mr. BLAIR: I understand the report has to go to the Central Board before it goes to the Publications Committee.

The GENERAL SECRETARY: The resolution is in four parts, and I will read it through again.

The resolution was then approved.

It was unanimously agreed that the resolutions to Congress referring to the reconstruction of the Joint Parliamentary Committee should be deferred until the special congress.

Mr. W. J. SALMON (Southern Section): I think that the Survey Committee's recommendations should be remitted to sections, districts, and societies, with the decision of the majority of the Central Board, either for or against, so that they can have something tangible to discuss.

A MEMBER from the South-Western Section: I will second that if it is in the form of a resolution. The Central Board is stultifying itself.

Mr. SALMON: In attending conferences as the representative of the Southern Section, I have been asked what is the position of the Central Board upon the recommendations of the Survey Committee, and I have been obliged to reply that it has not come to any decision. I say that is an invidious position for a member of the Central Board to be in when he is sent out to direct opinion at conferences.

Mrs. GASSON: Will this resolution of the Survey Committee be submitted to Congress before the delegates have had time to discuss the report?

The GENERAL SECRETARY: The Standing Orders Committee will have to decide that point. It is foreshadowed here that Congress will be asked to remit this matter to the conferences.

FOOD CONTROL.

Mr. T. WAY (North-Western Section): In regard to the emergency resolution headed, "Ministry of Food," the continuance of food control, which I take it is what we want, is not specifically alluded to. I understand that Mr. Roberts, the Food Controller, considers it to be his business to demobilise food control, and he has done so with certain articles already. Whether decontrol has led to a scarcity I do not know, but scarcity there certainly is. Ought we not to state clearly in this emergency resolution that we do not wish control of foodstuffs to be demobilised?

The GENERAL SECRETARY: The gentleman deputed to introduce this resolution will bring that point forward.

NATIONALISATION OF MINES.

Mrs. GASSON (Southern Section): Only the miners are pressing for the complete nationalisation of mines. No other organisation has put forward the same demand. I was wondering whether we could not bring before Congress an emergency resolution supporting the demands of the miners.

The GENERAL SECRETARY: The nationalisation of mines is referred to in the resolution sent in by the Manchester and Salford Society.

Mr. W. R. BLAIR (North-Western Section): On this question of coal supplies, I am afraid we cannot wait for the nationalisation of mines to safeguard coal supplies. I think, in view of the statement authoritatively made that there is likely to be a big shortage in the production of coal, some statement or proposal should go from this Board to Congress on this question. We represent the organised consumers, and it is the working class consumers who are going to suffer most by the shortage of coal. I therefore suggest that we ask Congress to pass a resolution instructing the United Board or the Parliamentary Committee to take the necessary steps to protect the interests of co-operators in this matter.

Mr. R. R. CHAPPEL: I move that the matter be referred to the Standing Orders Committee. ("Agreed.")

Mr. AGNEW : I think it well to know what we are doing. We have incorporated that resolution this morning.

Mr. PERRY : Already we have supported nationalisation of mines, land, and railways.

Mr. McLEAN : I don't think these things require to be re-affirmed every time. We have already endorsed all this.

The CHAIRMAN : The Standing Orders Committee will also consider the "datum period."

Mrs. GASSON : My resolution is an emergency resolution, to be brought before Congress on the nationalisation of mines.

Mr. CHARTER : Do we want to pass this every year ?

The CHAIRMAN : I do not think so ; we can easily overlook it.

Mr. CHARTER : I think Mr. Blair's proposal is an important one.

It was decided that the Standing Orders Committee should put up a resolution on the lines suggested by Mr. Blair.

DELEGATES AND LODGINGS.

Mr. JONES : I want to point out to the Central Board the unsatisfactory arrangements for Congress. I think we, through the Central Board, should take some responsibility for this. If the conditions in which the members of the Board find themselves to-day are any indication, what must be the position of the delegates from the ordinary societies ? I am a member of the Central Board, but I must leave Carlisle to-night or sleep in the streets, because the available accommodation is not such as I would send cattle to. At the present moment I have neither agenda nor other papers, because my boxes are at the cloak room, and ever since coming to Carlisle I have been walking the streets searching for rooms ; and the secretary can have nothing to do with the matter, it being a matter for the local committee. I think the matter of accommodation should be gone into before next Congress.

Mr. A. PURDIE : I should like to associate myself with the remarks of Mr. Jones, and point out the difficulties of small towns like Carlisle in accommodating Congress. There are only two or three towns scattered about the country which can do justice to Congress.

The GENERAL SECRETARY : We, as officials, are not responsible for the lodgings. I will arrange, however, that in future a representative of the staff shall be in the Congress meeting place sufficiently long to see that there is the necessary accommodation. Next year we shall have a difficulty. Torquay and Bristol have sent invitations. Torquay is a beautiful place, but Bristol has the accommodation. This year you have 1,750 delegates. Next year, if Torquay is selected, as it is a watering place, there will be 1,840 delegates.

Mr. A. HORRICKS : I should like to know if the officials of the Union will be prepared to take the responsibility. The responsibility should be taken away from the people who are attending Congress this year, because the majority of them will not be attending Congress next year.

The GENERAL SECRETARY : There will be a limitation. If we go to a town where there is not the accommodation available, you cannot expect the officials of the Union to take the responsibility.

Mr. W. R. BLAIR : Don't you think it better that the officials of the Union should make a statement of the accommodation at these places ?

The GENERAL SECRETARY : That is done each year.

At this stage the CHAIRMAN suggested that it would serve no useful purpose to labour the question, and the discussion was discontinued.

The GENERAL SECRETARY announced that a meeting of the Central Board would be held at the close of Congress, on Tuesday afternoon, and the meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to Mr. F. Hayward for presiding.

THE CONGRESS LUNCHEON.

The company round the table at the complimentary luncheon given by the Reception Committee and the Central Board in the Co-operative Hall, Botchergate, was of a very representative character, and was graced by the presence of the Chief Citizen of Carlisle and the venerable Dean of the City.

Mr. W. Scott (Northern Section) who presided, had the Mayor (Councillor Bertram Carr) on his right, and the Dean of Carlisle (the Rev. H. Rashdall) on his left.

The CHAIRMAN, who opened the post-prandial proceedings by reading the following letter from the Bishop of Carlisle, said : We expected the Bishop to be here, but as the letter will explain, it has been quite impossible for him to accede to our request. The letter is so interesting, of such an educational character, and so complimentary, that I am very anxious that every word should be heard, coming, as it does, from the Bishop of Carlisle :—

“ Rose Castle,

“ Carlisle.

“ 4th June, 1919.

“ My Dear Sir,

“ Allow me to thank you and your committee for your kind invitation to luncheon on Saturday, 7th June.

“ It would have been a real pleasure to me to have been present on this occasion, but I regret to say that it is not possible, owing to my recent serious illness and my absence from home.

“ As I am writing, I would like to express the interest and admiration which I have felt for more than fifty years in the proceedings and growth of the co-operative movement.

“ My earnest hope is that the movement may continue to expand and prosper, because I believe that in its fundamental principles

will ultimately be found the true solution of the labour difficulties which are at present agitating so large a part of the civilised world.

"I have noted, with grateful delight, the very high place which the county of Cumberland has attained among the counties of England for its direct share in this great movement.

"Trusting that your deliberations may be guided to a right issue and to the welfare, not only of the present members of the co-operative movement, but our nation at large.

"I am, faithfully yours,

"J. W. CARLISLE."

"I think, after such a nice letter," the Chairman remarked, "we ought to give instructions to our secretary to acknowledge its receipt and express our delight in receiving it. I now extend a most sincere welcome to our colleagues from England, Scotland, Ireland, and Wales. I am glad to see among them old worthies who have been able to come to Carlisle, and we trust and pray that God's blessing will rest upon them and that their lives will be extended for many years to come. On behalf of the Central Board and the Reception Committee, I express our delight at the presence of the Mayor of Carlisle. It is not always that we have the presence of the Mayor at Congress gatherings; but in the person of Mr. Carr we have an excellent gentleman, tolerant and a man of sporting instincts as far as business is concerned. And then we have the Dean of Carlisle. We are delighted to see him. Why should not representatives of the church and the co-operative movement mix more and more together? Is it not a fact that there is more in common between the church and the co-operative movement than there is between the co-operative movement and any political party? The mission of both the church and the movement is to raise the people generally: We are glad to see Sir T. W. Allen, who is one of our own people. We wish for him long life. We regard the honour conferred upon him as one conferred upon the movement."

The CHAIRMAN then proposed the health of the King, the company loyally responding.

"CIVIC AND COMMERCIAL PROSPERITY OF CARLISLE."

Mr. W. R. RAE, chairman of the Central Education Committee, proposed "the Civic and Commercial Prosperity of Carlisle." He said: I have got a place of honour and a place of difficulty. I know Carlisle is a very old city, older than Glasgow, although some people think the world is one huge Glasgow. I daresay it is older than Newcastle, although some people in the east look upon Newcastle as the hub of the universe. The Romans found Carlisle where it is, and called it Luguvallium. It is a merciful thing that their nomenclature did not live, otherwise there would be far more premature deaths. The little town had an extraordinary existence for some years. The Danes sacked it and destroyed it and ruined it: but they did not

extinguish Carlisle. It rose Phoenix-like on its ashes, and presently Rufus dignified it as a city, and empowered the citizens to begin a grand cathedral, which was a credit to the town. Carlisle is in a district immersed in British history, especially when the men in the north who had not much and those who had more met occasionally to decide whose it was. Carlisle looked towards the north to see who was coming, and to ascertain what their business was. The invaders came and opened shops, and benefited, and the balance was decidedly on their side, as at the present day. Sir Walter Scott, I believe, was married in Carlisle Cathedral. There was the growth of the gaol, that was one of the marks of the growth of the city. And then Mary Queen of Scots was imprisoned in a portion of the Castle since destroyed. On the commercial side there were very active but small industries. Biscuits were made in Carlisle; and although we do, to some extent, compete with the biscuits so successfully turned out by the firm represented by the Mayor, they could always say that they turned out an honest biscuit for honest teeth. That leads me to think of the great future of Carlisle. It sits on the throne of seven railway systems; and if they cannot make a city and a future, certainly the people of Carlisle are not impregnated with that spirit which I have reason to believe does exist.

The MAYOR OF CARLISLE, who replied, said: I desire in the first place to express my appreciation of the compliment you have paid me in asking me to respond to the toast which has been proposed in such felicitous terms. It will be my privilege to address to you a few words of welcome on Monday, but I should like, on behalf of the city and neighbourhood, to take this, the first, opportunity to greet you, though perhaps in a less formal way, and to bid you a hearty welcome to this city.

I am told that the numbers visiting Carlisle for this conference are greatly in excess of any previous records. The city, will, I am sure, sustain its reputation for hospitality, but I understand that its capacity to entertain has been so taxed that you have overflowed into the neighbourhood, even as far as "Carlisle by the Ser." For those of you who stay there I have no doubt this will but add to your enjoyment, and the ozone for which Silloth is noted will invigorate you for the strenuous labours of the day. You will have many problems to discuss; but I hope that you will still have sufficient relaxation and leisure to see something of the neighbourhood. The long, sweet June evenings, with the added hour of daylight, will enable you to take advantage of the opportunity. For those whose career is still before them, or whose ambitions are still unfulfilled, I might recommend the "Wishing Gate," though I fear this is too far afield. For those in whose hearts there is still left a shred of romance, there is within quite easy reach by rail the "Popping Stone." Its efficacy may still be put to a practical test. But I must not enlarge too much upon the attractions of the district or you might wish to lengthen your stay indefinitely.

I need not say that I hold it to be a great honour as well as a responsibility to occupy the position to which I have been called, in a city whose

history dates back throughout so many centuries. I am thus, in common with all the citizens, in an especial sense "The heir of all the ages in the foremost files of time." We may rightly take a pride in our Border City. At the dawn of history in these islands there was a settlement here. It was an outpost of Roman Empire in the brave days of old. We may still walk for miles along the top of the old Roman wall which crossed the river here, and had its western extremity in this neighbourhood. From the records in the possession of the Corporation, the history of the city is practically complete as far back as the reign of William Rufus, who came to the city in the year 1092. It was then that the boundaries between England and Scotland were established and Carlisle became for the first time part of the English Kingdom.

It would appear also that there was some sort of authority governing the city as far back as 1154, in the reign of Henry II. For hundreds of years before the passing of the Municipal Corporations Act in 1835, this city had its Mayor and governing body. For those who have the time and opportunity to study such things, there are many interesting records which throw light upon the manners and customs of times long gone by. The first mention of a Mayor in the Corporation's records, is in a Charter dated 1292, granted in the reign of Edward I., incorporating the Governing Body by the name of the Mayor, Aldermen, Bailiffs, and Citizens of the City of Carlisle. We learn that one of the Aldermen was to be appointed Mayor, and Eleven "Honest Men" besides the Mayor were to be Aldermen. Two other men were to be Bailiffs. Two "Discreet" men to be Coroners and twenty-four others to be Capital Citizens. It is curious and instructive to know that whereas the Eleven Aldermen were required to be "Honest" and the two Coroners to be "Discreet" the Mayor was apparently not required to be either the one or the other, although it may fairly be assumed that, being chosen from the Aldermen he had already established a reputation for honesty.

However, in our civic life we do not dwell much upon the past, but, I trust, in a progressive spirit, never remaining satisfied with attainment, we look forward to the accomplishment of much that lies before us in the future. The past history of an old walled city such as this leaves its legacy of ideas antiquated and out of date. These, as expressed in tangible form, are an embarrassment, and hinder the wheels of progress, but we view these, I hope, in the spirit of the optimist to whom every difficulty is an opportunity, and not as the pessimist, to whom every opportunity presents some difficulty.

Turning for a few moments to our commercial life. To begin with, Carlisle is a great railway centre, no less than seven different companies running into the Citadel Station. It is therefore an important distributing centre. I need not remind you that the Carlisle South End Co-operative Society plays an important part in this business of distribution. The history of the society is one of continuous progress and success. But even ardent co-operators, such as I assume you all to be, will agree that no one concern

or system, however efficient, can embody all the excellencies; and there is ample scope for private enterprise in all kinds of trade, of which full advantage is taken. As to manufactures, the prosperity of the city rests upon a broad basis in that it does not depend on any one industry alone. It is an interesting fact that in a city where the co-operative movement has found so congenial a soil there flourish these industries, founded and carried on by private enterprise. Their products are each so excellent of their kind that it is no exaggeration to say that they are favourably known the wide world over.

This energy and enterprise in industry, in trade, and in various other spheres, is reflected in our local public life. From all sections of the community there have always been forthcoming men of public spirit ready to take their share in public work, and to contribute their quota to the common weal. Happy is the city that is in such a case!

Gentlemen, again on behalf of the city I thank you. The programme of events gives promise that during your stay here profit and pleasure are to be combined in such proportions that there is, I trust, reason to believe your highest expectations will be fully realised.

THE DEAN OF CARLISLE ON CO-OPERATION.

"The Co-operative Movement" was toasted by the Dean of Carlisle, who said: I am sorry the Bishop cannot be here to-day. He would have proposed this toast with much more eloquence than I can command. But he could not wish more cordially for success to the co-operative movement. I have always regarded that movement with great sympathy—perhaps I should better express myself if I said with profound respect. I should like to illustrate what I mean by respect which the movement ought to command. Some years ago I was present at a dinner of a society of professional philosophers. One of them indulged in a vein not uncommon among the English, a vein of national self-depreciation. He suggested we were behind the whole world in intellectual powers, and, in fact, we were rather a stupid people. Another man present—a very distinguished philosopher indeed, and not a man of democratic sentiments—replied, not by pointing to the eminence of English philosophers—although I think he might have shown our philosophy to quite equal that of any other nation—nor by pointing to achievements of English literature, the merits of which are generally acknowledged by the critics of other nations; nor by insisting upon the fact, the undeniable fact, that most epoch-making discoveries have been made by Englishmen; but by pointing to the lead this country has taken in working-men's organisations. I think he was right in pointing to the success of these labour organisations, these democratic organisations of all kinds, as better proof that we are not a stupid people than could be afforded by pointing to any individual great man we have produced. I think none stands on a higher level than the great co-operative movement. There is no movement of this land into which more sheer intellect has been put than into that movement. But something better than brains has been put into this move-

ment. The most remarkable thing about it is the extraordinary combination it has shown in its shrewd business capacity with far-reaching social enthusiasm. Those two things do not always go together; but I think they have done so in the history of the co-operative movement. The sheer business capacity which has been shown in this movement is entitled to all possible respect. One other thing about it which entitles it to greater respect is the stand co-operators always made for the principle in commercial transactions that in the pursuit of profit the advantage sought ought to be subordinate to the zeal for the common good. You have stood for a wider principle—you have not looked upon profit other than a means of social service. We can all welcome a society of co-operators. If this were a society of socialists, I am sure that I could not say that the welcome would be absolutely universal; still less if this were a society of capitalists. But co-operation is a movement which has this peculiarity, that whatever political or economic views anyone may entertain, he can have nothing to say against it. From the point of view of one completely satisfied with the existing system of competition and capitalistic production, a society of co-operators is simply a collection of persons who have availed themselves of the individual action through a committee and through an association, for which individuals always stood. They have availed themselves of those rights very much to their own and others' advantage. From a socialist point of view the movement may be regarded at least as a step to something better, that something better for which we are all in search, no matter in what different directions we may look for it. Personally I am disposed to doubt whether any one movement or mode of thought is destined to solve the social problem by itself. For a long time to come many lines of reform and improvement, many social experiments and economic changes may combine to lead us to that better system of which we are all in search. Among all the experiments so far tried, the one that has achieved the greatest measure of success, attracting masses of men, and making for the social progress that we are in so many ways anxious for, is the movement you represent. I have been interested to hear of the change that has been introduced into your movement by your adoption of new principles, and the formation of a political party. What effect will it have on the movement I may not venture to suggest. That is a point on which co-operators themselves are divided. But I may say, with confidence, one good effect that change will certainly have if it leads to the introduction into political life, into the Parliaments and the Ministries of the future, of men of the capacity, the calibre, and the character of the men who have so far guided this great movement to its present successful position. That will be an important service to the community. I can propose with the utmost cordiality and sincerity this toast of success to the co-operative movement.

The Dean concluded with the observation that when that Congress met at Oxford, in 1882, he had the pleasure of listening to Canon Scott Holland preaching the special sermon.

Alderman F. HAYWARD, J.P., President of the Congress, in reply, said : It is with very great pleasure that I rise to respond to the toast which has been so ably moved by the Dean of Carlisle. It is some consolation to know that we have so far got on the way that the Dean of Carlisle has come to treat the movement with profound respect. I hope that respect is a respect which will grow, not only with regard to the Dean of Carlisle, but in all those people who are looking upon us with undeserving suspicion without regard to the ultimate objects we have in view. We find expressed in the social and economic life of co-operation certain ethical principles ; and it is in proportion as we are able to apply those ethical principles that we shall be able to solve the problems pressing so hard on us to-day. There is not a scheme in which the word reconstruction is brought into use but in what we find some form of co-operation suggested—in the Whitley Councils and so forth. The only solution to the problems confronting us in the nation and in the community at the present time is in the application to industry and commerce of the principles of the Co-operative Commonwealth. We feel that our movement is destined to play a very important part in the national reconstruction : and we hope to see our principles applied more in national affairs in the future than in the past.

“INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION.”

The last toast, “International Co-operation,” came from Sir T. W. ALLEN. He said : I am one of those who believe that in international co-operation is our hope for the peace of the world. The position we desire to see taken up is that there shall be a wider and better international understanding in all affairs ; and we feel certainly sure that through the principles of international co-operative trade we have the possibility of carrying this out. The “Great Four” have been able to bring into existence a League of Nations for the regulation of this country and of other peoples ; but they could not keep together, as an international purchasing committee, for the purpose of controlling prices and supplies for the benefit of the peoples so much interested. No stronger proof could be advanced for the fact that ministries and the governments are powerless in this respect. The fact is that capital is really in possession. It can, and does, rule governments : and even republics such as America and France are quite helpless in this matter, no matter what legislative enactments they bring into existence to find a remedy. We are convinced of this, that while for the time being the governments are powerless, mainly because the governors themselves who are interested in politics are also great business magnates, something will have to be done which can only be done by linking up forces internationally. In many countries we know that the one thing of utility that has survived the great catastrophe is the co-operative organisation ; and we want to see such organisations in the various countries extended and made more useful instruments for national purposes than they have been in the past. It is useless to talk sentiment about international co-operation : what we

have to do is to make application of our ideal. We want a little more applied idealism. It is nothing more than a clear sense of atmosphere that is needed to change our marred universe into something more like what it ought to be. If we believe co-operation is good nationally, there is no reason why it should not be good internationally. We find to-day, and ever since the armistice, representatives in our country who have come from neutral countries to make purchases in order to rehabilitate their societies. But we shall only strengthen the vicious system now prevailing unless we tighten our bonds. Each country wants things co-operatively from every other country. Our country is dependent upon some other countries for the means of existence. We want co-operative depôts in other countries; and more than that, in the capital of each country. Through co-operative organisations, we want a system of pure international co-operative trading. We have many countries represented here to-day which have lost everything but hope. I would like to assure them that what assistance this country can render to them will be done, not only sentimentally but in a very practical way. We sympathise with them in their trials and troubles; and so far as we can, as British people, we shall help to rehabilitate them and to put them on a firm foundation. We shall live up to the best co-operative spirit; and in that spirit I ask you to drink to International Co-operation.

Mr. H. J. MAY (secretary of the International Co-operative Alliance) responded, saying: To me this is the most important toast of the afternoon; and I realise it falls to my lot to respond to it through the unfortunate illness of our venerable president, Mr. William Maxwell. Mr. Maxwell is absent from our gathering to-day as a result of the courage and the persistency with which he has followed the ideal embodied in this toast; and he was quite earnestly prepared to follow it unto death. Some of you know that in February we were in Paris for a conference. It was proposed that we should take a trip through the devastated areas of France and Belgium, in order to tell our friends here, from the point of view of eye-witnesses and not of censored newspaper reports, what were the conditions and the sufferings of our co-operative friends there, due to the war. Mr. Maxwell was strongly persuaded not to undertake the journey, knowing full well it would be attended by hardships. He returned in a condition of collapse and exhaustion; and he almost broke down in saying to me that he felt ashamed to have to return and not complete the task he set out to perform. But the weight of four score years was upon him. I say that will be a lasting inspiration to me, as I believe it will be to every co-operator who was there. Just before I left London, I received a letter from Paris, from a gentleman whose name I must not mention, but who is connected with the British delegation in Paris, and said to be a representative of working-class organisations, and it was quite possible to read the disquiet he feels at the present moment at the possibilities that underlie the Peace Treaty which has been the work, for the past five or six months, of the diplomatists of the world, and which, as far as we can gather, has little hope of attaining the enduring

peace we desire. I suggest to you it is but the skeleton of the thing we desire ; and I further suggest that our movement linked up—this Co-operative Congress represents perhaps the greatest of all working-class movements—with the co-operative millions of Russia, would clothe this skeleton with flesh and blood. Those who retain their idealism should breathe into it the breath of life and so make it a living thing that will make for that amity and that friendship we all desire. Let us close our ranks all over the world, unify our means and our methods, and give practical expression to them in everyday life. Let us sink our differences and some of our ambitions and pride for the common cause. In France, Belgium, Switzerland, aye, even in Germany, they have faith in our ideals of co-operation, national and international. Let us give full expression to them, and our brotherhood will become a living and real thing. Our lines have been broken, our communications stopped, and the work of the International for the past five years has been a thing to deplore, but it has not disappeared. We have information and knowledge of what is going on. Let me assure you there are men and women in every country of Europe who have like ideals, like hopes, and like desires ; and in supporting this toast to-day we are seeking to achieve the brotherhood of man.

THE EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE.

An Educational Conference was held in the County Hall, Botchergate on the Saturday afternoon, Mr. W. R. RAE (chairman of the Educational Committee) presiding. With the chairman on the platform were Mr. C. E. Wood (secretary, Educational Committee) and Prof. F. Hall (Adviser of Studies). The Chairman expressed his pleasure at seeing so many present when the ideal afternoon was tempting them to play truant. But was not the subject worthy ? They were come together to consider again and to renew their determination to have at an early date a Co-operative College. Was not the subject worthy of their self-denial when they remembered that when they got that college they would be able to place before the people opportunities of learning the truth which they had never had before ? It was just possible that after they had heard Mr. Hall and discussed what he had to say they might feel inclined to pass a resolution. If they did so it would be quite in order, and it would be good to pass it and give Congress an expression of their desire that such a college should be established. Not long ago he was looking up the first volume of the *Co-operative News* on another subject and he came across an appeal to Englishmen to establish for themselves classes in order that they might be taught or teach themselves the things they should know, and this appeal came not from any great

English enthusiast, like Auberon Herbert, but from a Russian. They heard a great deal about Russia to-day, but even in those early days this man could see far more clearly than they could to-day the absolute necessity of drinking knowledge from a pure source.

A member of the Wholesale Board had asked him (Mr. Rae) that day "what are you going to do with all the colleges?" The imputation was that there were other colleges already doing the work—Ruskin College and others. His reply had been "What are you doing with all the kirks?" If people wanted a kirk of their own they did not bother about what other kirks there were. They got their own and went to it. Co-operators had just as much right to have their college and to support it as had other people to their kirks, and no one had the right to say they should go to any other college. It seemed to him that in promoting this college they were promoting something that was essential to themselves. They were not to be drawn away, therefore, by a statement that there were other colleges or that other colleges were empty. Let them go ahead to establish their own college. After they had heard Mr. Hall, if they passed the resolution they could send it along to Congress to show that they were in earnest on this matter.

THE CO-OPERATIVE COLLEGE: ITS NECESSITY AND IMPORTANCE.

In introducing the subject of the Conference—"The Co-operative College: Its Necessity and Importance," Prof. HALL said that in 1912 he had the honour of receiving an invitation to address the Easter Week-end meeting on the subject of a Co-operative College. At that time he was not a member of the staff of the Co-operative Union, but he had been a student of co-operative classes, a teacher of co-operative classes, and had had some experience of college, and he was convinced then that one of the greatest needs of co-operation was a Co-operative College. Since then he had been more directly identified with the administration of co-operative education and he was more impressed than ever with the need for a college. Was it not the case that whenever they had to consider the problems which faced them in the movement they had always to recognise education as being the basis of all the solutions of their problems? That education must be co-operative education. They had come to the conclusion that their educational work must be definitely co-operative in character and that it must be carried on in many grades. They had to develop work amongst the young people, amongst adults and amongst employees, and beyond all that they needed a special Co-operative College where they could do work which could only be done in an institution of a collegiate character. Such a college would provide opportunities for social intercourse and would help to promote a better understanding among co-operators, and that would lead to more effective co-operation.

DEVELOPING THE COLLEGE-IDEA.

When they first began to advocate this college a great many people were filled with the idea that a college was something beyond the reach of the working man or woman, that a college was for the purpose of giving the finish to a long period of education. But since that time, the development of the week-end schools and the growth of the summer school work had done a great deal to develop the college idea. They had many people every year at these temporary colleges—for that was what they were—and there was no student who had ever been at a summer school but was convinced of their value. He wished them to visualise the college as a summer school carried on continuously. The college would be a centre that would stimulate the students, that would not only create enthusiasm for knowledge but would cultivate enthusiasm for the principles of co-operation and for education. They wanted not only enthusiasm, however, but guided enthusiasm : so they wanted knowledge. And they wanted knowledge for the sake of assisting the cause ; they wanted knowledge for service and not merely for personal advantage. They desired to inspire their students to use their knowledge in the co-operative movement and the causes which it took up. He looked upon inspiration for service as one of the most important tasks of a Co-operative College.

What were they to teach ? He had been asked : Were they going to teach "Co-operative" English or "Co-operative" Arithmetic ? At a meeting he had recently attended, the Principal of a Technical School had poked fun at a co-operative educational secretary who had asked for these, but there was a very good answer to the question. The meaning was aptly expressed by a man who wished the children to be taught from co-operative English books. What the man wished was that the class "Readers" should not be "readers" describing the history of millionaires but readers describing the conditions of the working class. He had no great hope that they would ever get any public institution to teach co-operation as co-operators desired that it should be taught. They might, in the course of time, begin to teach co-operation in council schools, but of what use would that be if the teaching was merely a record of the dates of the work ? Co-operative education meant, if it meant anything at all, the spread of co-operative conviction, and he had no opinion that public authorities would be willing for a long time to come to have their buildings used for co-operative missionary work. Yet it was for that work that their education was required and it was for that work that they required a Co-operative College.

WHY THE COLLEGE IS WANTED.

Co-operators had, continued Mr. Hall, their own special problems, but they found that they could not solve them without facilities that they did not find in any institution in the country. They must provide these facilities themselves. He did not feel that any institution now in existence could give that stimulus to co-operative development that a Co-operative

College would be able to give. Co-operators also needed a more intimate knowledge of co-operative history and a wider knowledge of co-operation, not only in this country but abroad, than they had to-day. They required a deeper knowledge of industrial history than they had been able to have in the past, and they must have the college as a medium for the dissemination of right ideas about Industrial History. Hitherto they had been dependent for their text books on people who believed in competition as the law of progress. They required their special institution because they needed to have their subjects taught in a special way in order to bring out both sides of a question where only one side is usually taught at present. In regard to Economics and Citizenship they found themselves entirely unprovided for by existing institutions. In Economics they found emphasis laid on the utility of competition. Then it was devoted to a study of wealth. As co-operators, they said there was something wider and bigger than material wealth and that they should ask for something bigger and better. But how were they going to put their view of Economics unless they had a college for teaching—a centre for writing the kind of books they wished?

CITIZENSHIP AND CO-OPERATION.

Then there was the subject of Citizenship. There could not be any effective citizenship without co-operation. Co-operation was the basis of true citizenship. The study of Citizenship was far more than the study of mere machinery. There was the cultivation of the sense of responsibility for the common good; and emphasis should be laid upon the fact that good citizenship was based upon good co-operation. The competitive system and good citizenship could not go together. That was a big statement, but he was convinced that it was a true one. If they taught that it was good for every man to look after himself how could they expect people to make sacrifices for the common good? They wanted their college, then, because they wished to present this subject before the people in a proper manner. If the co-operative system of education had been in being for the past 30 or 40 years it could not be denied that international relationships would have been better than they were to-day. The way to teach commerce was not to teach that it was a means of getting something out of other people, but that it was exchange for mutual benefit.

• These subjects—Co-operation, Industrial History, Economics, and Citizenship—were the social subjects which would be taught, but they intended to have in addition special co-operative subjects in which they were interested, as persons engaged in trade and commerce. In the long run they would have to depend on the business efficiency of their movement, and he felt sometimes that there was nobody more alive to the need for efficiency than those concerned with education, and they did not get the assistance they needed for the development of efficiency. Technical education was needed within the movement, and they had classes for apprentices, for salesmen, for managers and secretaries, and for bookkeeping, &c., but when

their students got beyond the technical classes at present they had nothing to offer in the way of advanced instruction. Yet those employed with private employers were being enabled to go forward to fit themselves for higher places. He ventured to suggest that if there had been a Co-operative College thirty years ago the movement to-day would have been far more efficient and effective than it was. Social subjects and technical subjects were amongst those which would be proper for the college, but there was more than the nature of the subjects—there was the atmosphere in which the subjects would be taught; and this was the most important feature of all. When a student was sent to a school or college his character and outlook were moulded by the atmosphere with which he was surrounded, and only in a Co-operative College could they have the co-operative atmosphere with which they wished to surround their students. They required, also, a training centre for teachers. There were many people who were anxious to teach but who lacked the ability to put their ideas before the pupils in an interesting manner. They needed a centre for the training of these people.

A CENTRE FOR RESEARCH.

At present they had no real centre where they could record experiments and developments, and they must have that if they were to be effective in their work, and the college would be a centre for research. They wished, said Mr. Hall, to get somewhere; they had their ideals in the co-operative movement and they wished to know how to get there. They needed research to show them how to overcome the difficulties and to use their strength more effectively. He was quite convinced that as a business investment a Co-operative College for this research work alone would pay for its establishment.

STUDENTS FROM ABROAD.

They should have also in this country a centre where they could receive foreign students. During the last few months they had had a student from Australia at Holyoake House, and they also had one from Egypt. They knew also of several others from other countries who desired to come to this country to study co-operation. What could be better than a Co-operative College where they could study co-operation under the best conditions? It would help also to cultivate international friendships. He hoped they would not under-rate this aspect of the subject. If they were ever to have international friendship they must get to know people in other countries, and this was one means that the co-operative movement could use for the purpose of creating a better understanding, and the extension of co-operative teaching, showing that, in the long run, men's interests were common, would help to build up international relationships and make for peace. The summer schools were growing in number. They began in 1913 with 20 students and the work had grown until last year they had 500 students. A few years ago people would have said it was impossible to

bring five hundred or six hundred people together in summer schools. The co-operative movement had done it. They had rejoiced when Birkenhead sent the first four students to the school, but this year they had one society sending thirteen, another seven, and several societies sending four, five, and six students.

OPEN TO EVERYONE.

He was one of those who believed that all institutions in this country should be open to everybody who had the ability to profit by them. With regard to other colleges their message was one of goodwill. Co-operators only said that they could not do co-operators' educational work any more than they could run co-operators' shops or societies. But when the college was established they would enter into working arrangements with those other colleges and thus establish a working-class university.

A great many people were scared by the cost, but men's ideas about the value of money had been changed by the war. Whatever one's opinion as to the justice of our cause there was no one but would admit that war was wasteful expenditure. And surely the cost of a college was but a drop in the ocean compared with the expenditure on even a day of war, and was nothing to what had been spent by the co-operative movement in a less useful manner.

The Central Education Committee suggested, concluded Mr. Hall, a sum of £50,000 for the purpose of establishing a college. Let them compare that sum with what had been paid in Excess Profits Duty during the war. They could afford the money. During the week they were going to discuss this subject at Congress. They might have something said to them about utilising existing institutions "which would meet our need," but he would warn them not to accept something said to be quite as good, but to be sure that they got the college itself. They might go away from Carlisle assured that the college was to start, but let not them go away with the idea that a strong centre alone could make the college successful. Societies must be prepared to send students to the college. Indeed, they did not need to wait until the college was established, they could send the students to Holyoake House now. If they went on with that work now, future generations, looking back on Carlisle Congress, would say that it was one of the most important ever held.

DISCUSSION.

The discussion was opened by Mr. GIBBINS (Brighton), who moved a resolution stating that it was desirable that a Co-operative College should be established, and asking the various societies throughout the country to subscribe a sum for the purpose of establishing such a college as a memorial of those who had made the supreme sacrifice during the war. Mr. Gibbins said he was asking that this should be done in memory of their boys. There was no need to emphasise what Prof. Hall had said, but as a student at the

summer schools for four years he wished to emphasise the very good work which these schools had been doing. He wished the colleges of the country to be open to all children. Some people might say that it was the duty of the Government to provide colleges, but he thought the Government had their hands full at present and that co-operators should build a co-operative college of their own, and he would ask those present to think whether the bulk of the subjects mentioned by Prof. Hall were taught anywhere else.

The CHAIRMAN said he would like to appeal to Mr. Gibbins. There were more than one resolution about this memorial coming before Congress and they did not wish the question of a college to be confused with the question of a memorial. He had been thinking over the matter while Mr. Gibbins had been speaking and had drafted a resolution which he thought would meet what Mr. Gibbins wished to get at. It was,—

That this conference recognises the great value to the co-operative movement of a Co-operative College and urges Congress to pass the approving resolution, so that a beginning may be made with a scheme for its promotion.

Mr. GIBBINS said he wanted the college, but he thought that possibly many of the societies might wish to do something by way of a memorial. He was quite agreeable that the words about the memorial should be deleted.

The resolution was seconded.

Mr. HOYLE (Slaitwaite) asked at what age the pupils would be admitted to the college.

The CHAIRMAN said anyone between 16 and 70 would be admitted. Really, it was a grown-up people's college that they wanted to establish. They proposed that there should be short courses and long courses, and it was possible that as they got on societies would not only send their students to the college but would give them some maintenance.

Mr. MARSHALL (Carlisle) said that he agreed that the education of the country should be such that the average child should get to the highest point they could aspire to. If they could concentrate their efforts on that and went in more for the younger generation they would be using their energies to the best advantage. He was quite in agreement with the establishment of this college, but it seemed to him they should not lose sight of the point the speaker made—that the rising generation should have the best opportunities.

The CHAIRMAN said they might take a lesson from the old monks. They cried out to State and Government to save the people from starvation, but while they were doing so they kept on relieving the starving people themselves. Let them take up that attitude to education.

Mr. BARLOW (Oswestry) said that he was pleased to hear that they wanted co-operation in the curriculum of their everyday schools, but he wanted the same spirit as Mr. Hall had shown, the spirit of association, for association was the greatest law they could get. He wished the children

to have the best, and nothing but the best would satisfy. He did not agree to Mr. Hall's limitation "for those qualified." They had all got possibilities and there were few but could absorb the best we could give. Many resolutions had been passed which stopped there. He wanted them to go right to the end with this.

Mr. FELTHAM (Southampton) said that from the very first time he had heard Mr. Hall speak on the subject he had made up his mind that they must have a college.

Mr. GILLINGHAM (Somerset District Conference Association) said he had the idea that if they established one college they would soon require to have many more. He did not wish to force this point, but if there was to be only one college it was going to be difficult for people to go there. The great idea for which co-operation stood was the elevation of the masses. They wanted to have a book also, in which convenient illustrations would be collected for the use of the teachers of children's classes.

A DELEGATE said that by the decision of his management committee he was debarred from voting at Congress for a college, so he took that opportunity of appealing to those delegates who were free to vote in favour of the college.

Mr. GAY (Swindon) said the rank and file of the movement knew little of the educational side of the movement. They had to be educated and that was one reason why the college should be established. What was the stumbling block? Two or three years ago his society sent in a resolution but they had not got it adopted yet. People who ran colleges for profit had little difficulty in getting the money they required.

A DELEGATE asked whether they were satisfied that after the college had been established and after the people had been educated and trained they could be held in the movement.

The CHAIRMAN: We are just as satisfied as we are that we can hold anybody else in the movement.

Mrs. DEWSBURY (Walsall) said they from Walsall had brought all the delegates they could bring to vote for the resolution. All sections of the community had been complaining that they had not had educational opportunities. Now co-operators had the chance of providing these opportunities for themselves. She thought that if it had not been for the war they would have been ashamed of themselves if they had not had their college before this.

Mr. KELLY (Liverpool Men's Guild) asked whether students were to enter college at their own expense and whether they were to be qualified before entering.

Mr. DONALDSON (Leith) said he desired to emphasise two points which Mr. Hall had made. There was a growing idea in many quarters that work should be undertaken more extensively amongst children, but the great difficulty was the provision of teachers well fitted for carrying out the work. Many people were interested in the children and in co-operation, but their

difficulty was how best to teach the subject so as to interest the children and bring before them a summary of the facts and the spirit underlying the movement. He felt that if they had a college it would provide a channel which would enable them to hold their own with the largest syndicate. Another point about the college which impressed him was the opportunity which it afforded for fellowship. Those of them who had been privileged to attend summer schools had received inspiration which had enabled them to overcome many difficulties.

A DELEGATE asked how it was possible to build and endow a college with £50,000, and the Chairman said that they had gone carefully into the matter. In reply to another question about a qualifying standard, he replied that they would have the preliminary stages for the college in the summer schools.

PROFESSOR HALL REPLIES.

Mr. HALL replied to the discussion. He said that they would be by no means confined to one place for summer schools, but they could have a permanent school at the college and not be, as at present, confined to the time when other people went for their holidays and they could get the colleges. He was in agreement with Mr. Gillingham that they would not be able to stop at one school—they would need more—but they had to have the one first. The college was intended to be residential, because they believed that from the social life there a great deal of benefit would come. They had been looking forward to the time when they would be able to provide something for the children in the form of a co-operative boarding school for those under 16. They were quite in favour of developing their activities, political and social, that would open up all the institutions of the country to the children, and they believed that the establishment of their Co-operative College would so foster the interest of the people in education that they would be keener than before to get their children there. It was their desire to get a place as centrally situated as possible. When the Wholesale Society was started it did not begin by planting branches at Bristol or Newcastle, and the same applied to the college. They had to start first and branch out after they were established. They needed also to do more for their teachers, and in the college they were going to have a place for research and for the accumulation of its results so that these would be available at any time. At the college they would also do something to infect the students with enthusiasm. They hoped to develop correspondence class work. They could never guarantee that the people they trained would be retained, but he thought, provided the college was a centre of enthusiasm, that they would be more readily retained than if they had not been to such a centre. He believed that they would soon have societies giving scholarships to members and members' children and to employees, just as they had been doing to the summer schools. At first it was very difficult to get scholarships for the summer schools. Birkenhead had done magnificently

when they gave four at the beginning. He thought a qualifying test would be required. He did not mean that they were going to raise a barrier, but they did not want students to have to do work there that they could do at home before they came. Nobody would be kept out because of apparently poor qualifications. He agreed that one result of the college would be improved organisation of local classes and they should increase the number of efficient and adequately trained teachers. It would also make it possible for the teachers to take a wider range of subjects. If their public school teachers had an opportunity to spend a time at the Co-operative College it would be to their benefit in dealing with social subjects. And there should be no difficulty in getting the money. A penny per member for three years would provide the money. They could also get grants from the federated societies and from retail societies. He believed that societies celebrating their jubilee might make grants. Why should not the Scottish Wholesale give a grant for the college, and other societies? When they wished to erect some memorial why should it not take the form of a grant? No policy regarding the relation of the college to the universities had been thought out, but their own college was coming into existence because the other colleges did not approach education from the same point of view as co-operators did. It might, however, be possible to arrange an exchange of lecturers. With respect to the question of qualification it would be of no use to send people to college to learn the alphabet, but no qualification would be required which would keep out any person desirous of taking advantage of the facilities. They wished to have facilities for all sections of the movement—for managers, secretaries, for employees, members, and teachers; and before they could do that they must have a permanent centre.

The resolution, as amended on the suggestion of the Chairman, was then put and unanimously agreed to.





FIRST DAY OF CONGRESS.

MONDAY, 9th JUNE, 1919.

MORNING SITTING.

The transformation of the Market Hall, where Congress held its sittings, from a trading mart to a centre of national co-operative deliberation was, as the Chairman remarked, most marvellous. A portion of the large hall of butchers' and miscellaneous stalls had been partitioned off and made agreeable with large canvas paintings—typical of the international character of the vast assembly—ranging from the Notre Dame at Paris and the Rialto at Venice to Conway Castle and Melrose Abbey, whilst light relief was introduced with pictures illustrative of nursery rhymes known throughout the civilised world.

Mr. T. Killon (chairman of the Co-operative Wholesale Society) presided, and on the platform were Alderman F. Hayward (chairman of the Central Board), the President-elect, and the following representatives of co-operative organisations in other countries:—Belgium (Co-operative Union), Messrs. L. Bertrand and J. Chevrement; France, Messrs. A. Thomas, E. Poisson, A. J. Cleuet, and Oualid; Finland (Co-operative Wholesale Society), Messrs. V. Fagerstrom, E. Hynninen, E. Stavenhagen, O. Korhonen, and B. Kanto; Sweden (Co-operative Union), Messrs. A. Gjöres and R. Molin; Switzerland (Co-operative Union), Mr. Maire, Professor H. Duaine, and Dr. A. Suter; Russia, Madame Polovtsev, Mr. and Madame Asantcheff, and Mr. Shmeleff; Swedish Legation in London, Mr. Sjostrand. "Home" delegations included the following:—International Co-operative Alliance,

Mr. A. Williams, M.P., and Mr. H. J. May ; Trade Union Congress, Mr. W. Banfield ; National Union of Teachers, Mr. J. E. Dogherty , Ministry of Labour, Mr. J. J. Dent. There were also on the platform the Mayor of Carlisle (Councillor Bertram Carr), Mr. A. Whitehead (general secretary), members of the Central Board, representatives of the two Wholesale Societies, Sir T. W. Allen, Mr. Shonk (Australian student at Holyoake House), and many other personages well known for their worth and work in connection with the movement.

Mr. T. KILLON rising, opened the Congress, saying : I have now to declare this Congress open ; and, on behalf of the Central Board of the Co-operative Union, to give each and every delegate a most cordial welcome to this, the 51st Congress. This Congress meets at probably the most momentous point in connection with one of the greatest crises the world has ever passed through ; and I am most confident that the greater part of the people, not only of this country, but of the world generally, will emerge from this trial triumphant, inasmuch as the old order of things is fast passing away, whilst a new era dawns, bringing with it to the homes of the people, not only of this country but of the world generally, a freer, better, and more hopeful future.

CIVIC WELCOME.

HIS WORSHIP, the MAYOR OF CARLISLE, gave the official civic welcome. I am very pleased, he said, to have the privilege to extend to you, on behalf of the citizens of Carlisle, a cordial welcome to this, our Border City, and I trust that your experiences during your few days sojourn amongst us may be such as will confirm you in the wisdom of your choice, when you decided to hold your Congress in Carlisle.

The contrast in the national circumstances since last you met in Congress is so great that I cannot forbear to make some reference to them. We were at that time in the throes of that titanic struggle for our very existence, a struggle undertaken in the interests of honour and of liberty. We were passing through some of the darkest days ; the days when we had our backs to the wall, when British pluck and British endurance were tried to the utmost, and nobly did they stand the test. Through the blessing of God upon our Empire's united efforts, and those of our Allies, the victory is ours. As the blessings of peace have been so dearly bought, it is incumbent upon those of us who enjoy these blessings, to apply ourselves with heart and soul to the solution of the problems that peace has brought in her train.

You have visited us once before ; that was 32 years ago, in 1887, the year of Jubilee. I have no doubt that there are a number amongst you who were here on that occasion, and may be it was in part the recollections of that happy gathering that influenced you to come again. That great reformer, Sir Wilfrid Lawson, all honour to his name, was with us then. He was at his best, and such was the flow of humour and goodwill that it was known as "The Laughing Congress."

Your gatherings have previously taken place in large cities, where Lord Mayors and Mayors have welcomed you amid the inspiring surroundings of magnificent Town Hall buildings. We cannot do that here, but our welcome is none the less sincere on that account. We may at least express the hope that we may be able to do so when you come again.

You come in great numbers. It is nothing less than an invasion. The time was when in this Border City an invasion was not welcomed quite as it is to-day. It would have been viewed with something more than suspicion. It would have been repelled with vigour by stout-hearted men-at-arms. But times have changed, and now, by night and by day, trains speed southward and northward; and as if to emphasise that change, they run close past the old defences of the city, the Castle ramparts, bringing about that intercourse and mutual knowledge one of another which help to knit peoples in common bond.

In this connection it is of especial interest that visitors are present, I understand, from France, Belgium, Sweden, Switzerland, and even from Finland. I entertain the happiest recollections of various visits paid to all these countries at one time and another, in each of which I have experienced most pleasant intercourse and most gracious hospitality. For the first two mentioned, now that their acutest suffering are past, may the time soon come when happiness and prosperity shall be restored.

Various reasons no doubt have contributed towards the swelling of your numbers. It is the first year of peace. There are better facilities for travel. There is greater freedom and a greater inclination to take advantage of such an opportunity than during the dark years of war. Then there are, I trust, attractions in the halo of romance which clings to this beautiful Border country. These must make their appeal even to the hardest-headed men of business, in whose hearts sentiment often lurks unsuspected.

You have a full programme before you, but as I have already said, I hope that you may find ample time to enjoy the beauties of the neighbourhood. You have chosen your time well, the leafy month of June, when the country is at its best. The river Eden flows through as fair a country as is to be found within these realms. It suggests a Paradise, which indeed it is.

Then your increasing numbers are a sure indication of the increasing strength and influence of the co-operative movement; a movement which long ago justified its existence, and which by the progress it has made has long shown that it has come to stay.

The principal reason that has made Carlisle your choice is doubtless the strength of the movement here. It is interesting to know that among the Counties of England, viewed as co-operative counties, while Durham and Northumberland come first and second, Cumberland is third.

The record of the Carlisle Co-operative Society is testimony to the enthusiasm and energy that have been devoted to the cause of co-operation in this district. I need not quote figures in detail; you are no doubt familiar

with them, but we see that in this, as in other spheres of industry, Cumberland holds a worthy position alongside our populous and influential neighbours on the East Coast, and helps to uphold the reputation of the sturdy North.

The co-operative movement is a great example of what can be accomplished where there is a community of interest. This community of interest does not, I think, necessarily imply identity or equality of interest.

On Saturday I remarked on the fact that here in Carlisle, where the co-operative movement is so vigorous, trade and industry flourish. Though you are enthusiastic co-operators you will no doubt admit that by private enterprise, as well as by co-operation, trade and industry can be, and often are, conducted in such a way as to bring happiness and material prosperity to all concerned. In the great world there is room for different methods. "Live and let live" is a good motto. The poet, Tennyson, observed that—

"God fulfils Himself in many ways

Lest one good custom should corrupt the world."

The ideal is a high one, to work for the common weal. At the same time individuality and varying capacity are to be reckoned with, and will find expression and outlet. It seems to me, whether in co-operation or in private enterprise, that coupled with the desire for the common good, there must always be sufficient individual inducement before you can expect to call forth the best endeavour, or best stimulate enterprise and progress. I have no doubt that those of you who carry large responsibilities in connection with the co-operative movement will appreciate what I say.

However, I must not venture upon what may be considered controversial matter. This is quite outside my province. My duty is, and I perform it gladly, to extend to you a hearty welcome, and when the time comes for you to leave our neighbourhood I trust you may all feel that the hours spent within our borders have been most enjoyable as well as most profitable.

Mr. KILLON: On behalf of the Congress I wish to tender your sincere thanks to the Mayor for his cordial welcome to the delegates and for the very admirable and interesting address just delivered. It is very gratifying to find the change that has come over the heads of municipal authorities during the past twenty-five years. We feel proud when the chief citizen of any town comes forward to welcome us. It is his duty to do it, but in past years we have not always been able to get that courtesy extended to us. I have to present to the Mayor specially bound copies of "Industrial Co-operation" and the "People's Year Book" and the "Co-operative Year Book."

The MAYOR: I have to acknowledge your cordial greetings. It has been a great pleasure to me to be present this morning, and (holding up his books) now that I am loaded with benefits I will return even happier than when I came. I will keep these volumes as an interesting memento of this occasion; and when I have studied them carefully I shall know quite as much about co-operation as many of you here. I will now retire and leave you to your deliberations.

The delegates rose as the Mayor left the platform.

Mr. KILLON: The next item is an exceedingly pleasant one. I have to introduce Alderman Hayward as President of the Congress. Mr. Hayward has won phenomenal success in municipal life in and around the town in which he resides. He must have taken a deep interest in the welfare of the citizens. His appointment as Chairman of the United Board and of the Central Board proves that he must have the confidence of the leaders of the movement who put him in the position he now occupies. I have to bespeak for him a sympathetic hearing while he delivers the Inaugural Address.

THE INAUGURAL ADDRESS.

The PRESIDENT, in the course of his Inaugural Address, said :

My first words to you this morning must be words of pleasure and congratulation that our Congress is able again to meet under conditions more nearly resembling those of peace. The terrible holocaust of the past five years has been brought to a close, and it is the fervent hope of all co-operators that the world may never again be plunged into a similar catastrophe.

The horrors of war have been brought into the lives and homes of almost all co-operators, and our hearts go out in sympathy to those among our number who mourn the loss of dear ones, and also to those who have returned from the war broken by the hardships they were called upon to endure. The individualistic system of social organisation and the competitive system of trade and commerce stand discredited as being the true causes of the world's troubles, and hence it is our privilege and our duty now to strive to establish a new social order, in harmony with our co-operative principles, that will bring happiness and contentment to all the peoples of the world.

During the war period our movement proved its worth to the general community, and has, despite the many difficulties with which it was confronted, made remarkable progress. Never before have our co-operative membership, capital, and trade increased so rapidly. At the outbreak of war our retail distributive societies had less than 3,000,000 members; to-day they have nearly 4,000,000. Prior to the war it took us ten years to secure an increase in membership equal to that secured during the last four years. The

share capital of our retail societies at the outbreak of war was less than £40,000,000; it is to-day £50,000,000. This is an increase of £10,000,000, an increase which it would have taken us ten years to secure in normal times. Our retail trade has increased from about £83,000,000 per annum before the war to, approximately, £150,000,000 in 1918; while the value of the productions of the two Wholesale Societies has increased from £11,000,000 in 1913 to more than £23,000,000 in 1918.

These astonishing developments afford irrefutable evidence that, despite the many difficulties which our societies have had to face in the way of restricted supplies and governmental interference, the co-operative movement has been found capable of giving satisfaction to the public in a way that no other trading organisation or body of private traders was able to do. The reasons for the phenomenal growth of our movement during war time are not difficult to discern. The co-operative movement has been the chief, if not the sole, protector of the community in all matters relating to the control of food supplies and the limitation of retail prices. If we look back to August, 1914, and recall the spirit of panic which then threatened to overwhelm the trade and commerce of the nation, we shall perceive that the policy then adopted by co-operative societies was of great national value.

The steady influence exerted by co-operative societies, which refused either to supply goods in large quantities or to raise prices unnecessarily, did much to ease a very difficult situation, and it is no exaggeration to say that millions of pounds sterling were saved to the general body of consumers by the action then taken by our movement. A similar spirit animated co-operators throughout the whole period of the war. As wholesale prices advanced, in consequence of world causes beyond our control, co-operative societies were invariably the last traders to advance retail prices; and, even when they were compelled to raise prices, they did not raise them to the level maintained by private traders. Did time permit, I could mention scores of cases in which our societies were able to keep down prices. Let me refer to the case of bread only.

If you refer to the Board of Trade *Labour Gazette* for the

period prior to the Government regulation of the price of bread, you will find that in almost all parts of the United Kingdom the average price charged by co-operative societies was a farthing, a halfpenny, or a penny per quartern loaf less than the price charged by private traders, even without taking into account co-operative dividends returned to customers. Even yet, many societies are still selling bread at a price lower than that fixed by the Government. This example might be supplemented by many others relating to the supply of milk, coal, and other principal commodities, and it was this convincing demonstration of the advantages to be secured by co-operative trading that led many persons to join co-operative societies. Even the present Prime Minister was constrained to pay a tribute to the great value of the national service rendered by co-operative societies when the whole nation was in peril. Now, as never before, the public generally have been compelled to realise that, under the competitive system, instead of the trader existing for the community, the consumer exists for the trader. Men have discovered that the consumers' necessity invariably presents the private trader with new opportunities of enriching himself by making monopoly profits, and the revenue collected under the excess profits tax is proof that many such profits have been made during the past four years.

Our dependence to a large extent upon non-co-operators for the supply of raw materials and certain essential commodities undoubtedly handicapped us in our efforts to protect the interests of our members, and the consuming public generally. Nevertheless, both wholesale and retail co-operative societies have undertaken many new activities since the commencement of the war. These activities are too numerous for me to refer to them in detail, but I would remind you that the Co-operative Wholesale Society has acquired a coal mine; many factories for the production of new classes of textiles, margarine, and other commodities; thousands of acres of land, both at home and abroad; and that it has organised a special agricultural department, in addition to opening several new trading departments. The Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society has likewise enlarged its activities, whilst the joint work

undertaken by the two wholesale societies has been enormously developed. Similar progress has been made in the sphere of co-operative distribution. The retail societies have opened innumerable new branches, established many new departments, and acquired several thousand acres of land suitable for developing their farming operations.

Our war-time difficulties were increased by the opposition of vested interests, whose representatives upon government committees, food control committees, and other public bodies frequently used their power to hinder the development of our movement. Under the Military Service Acts—often unfairly administered in cases in which co-operative societies were concerned—our staffs were depleted to an extent that made it impossible for many societies to maintain an efficient service, and the adoption of the “datum period” as the basis for rationing the supply of many commodities still further aggravated our commercial difficulties. The heads of government departments were indifferent to our appeals, whilst the vested interests to which we are opposed, as a result of their closer combination, grew stronger and more clamant for measures designed to prevent the expansion of our movement. Let me quote a specific instance. I am acquainted with a society of over 14,000 members, which, under the datum period arrangement, had an allotment of sugar, amounting to seventy-eight bags per week. So inadequate was the supply, that, when the principle of registration was enforced, only 11,000 members registered with the society for sugar. Despite this fact, the allotment was at once increased to 125 bags to meet the needs of the 11,000 rationed members. The society had been expected to supply 14,000 members from a supply of 78 bags only, yet the quantity as rationed amounted to 125 bags! Every effort had been made by this society to secure additional supplies before the rationing system was enforced, but without success; and when it is remembered that what happened in regard to sugar was repeated in the case of at least a dozen other articles, it will be seen that the progress of the movement in war-time was nothing less than marvellous.

With the establishment of a Ministry of Food Control, as part of the machinery of State government, our difficulties became still

more acute. Our position was not strong even when we were represented on Food Control Committees; when we were unrepresented we were quite impotent. The Ministry of Food was dominated at the outset by persons who were for the most part anti-co-operative in their ideas and outlook, and hence co-operative societies met with but little favour at their hands. Thanks to the efforts of our Parliamentary Committee, however, we were in time able to gain some relief, and, in my judgment, the movement owes an immense debt of gratitude to the members of that committee for their untiring work on behalf of co-operative societies. It is pleasing to note in this connection that Sir T. W. Allen (chairman of the Parliamentary Committee) has been honoured by the State for his work as a member of the Consumers' Council.

The circumstances created by the war gave our trading rivals many opportunities to attack us, and their attacks were marked by a virulence not equalled in previous years. The fact that our operations hindered their efforts to amass large fortunes stimulated their anger, and, as a consequence, our societies were made liable for taxation under the Excess Profits Duty by the adoption of a method of assessment that was altogether unjust. Our war-time experiences, combined with the ever-growing demand made by our competitors that the burden of taxation already imposed upon us should be increased, was primarily responsible for the decision of the Swansea Congress that the time had come for co-operators to enter the political arena. When the owners of vested interests provoked us to political action they did not realise that they were calling into being a force that will enable us to fight them on more equal terms. Defeated, as they have been, in the sphere of production, distribution, and exchange, our opponents have used their political power to delay our economic progress. Now, as they will ere long discover, we shall be prepared to meet them in Parliament on equal terms.

The time of testing through which we have passed has revealed certain weaknesses in our organisation. First, I am inclined to put the lack of effective co-operation between the separate societies included in the Co-operative Union. Too many co-operators regard their own society as an end in itself rather than as a unit forming

part of a national movement. We need, therefore, to consider how we can best co-ordinate our activities so that the resources of all can be used to increase the welfare of each individual society. In the second place, I am convinced that we must redouble our efforts to make the members of our societies into loyal co-operators. It has been to me a matter of pleasurable surprise to find, during our times of difficulty, how many of our members, inspired by their co-operative ideals, were willing to do all in their power to assist in overcoming the difficulties by which we were confronted. There is, however, still a large number of co-operators who, although they are more or less loyal purchasers, lack that keen interest in co-operation which knowledge of its history and principles never fails to create, and hence it is our duty to strive to educate all our members in the principles of co-operation. If we have failed in any respect during the war it is not because we have been co-operators, but because we have not been sufficiently co-operative. Unity of purpose is as essential to the success of the co-operative movement as it was to the success of the Allied Powers, and if we are to progress towards the goal we have in view there must in the future be a far greater co-ordination of effort between all parts of our movement than there has been in the past.

I desire, therefore, with all respect, to urge the need for greater efficiency in our co-operative societies. Co-operators are entitled to the best service that we can give; and one cannot but feel that there is room for considerable improvement in our methods of administration and management. Inefficiency is fatal to our ultimate success, and we must now see to it that all the resources of the co-operative movement and the State are utilised so as to secure for all co-operative employees, from the chief official to the humblest worker, the utmost possible amount of technical instruction and general knowledge that can be used in the service of co-operative societies. Another weakness that has often been referred to is to be found in the multiplicity of our societies and the consequent overlapping of their activities. So long as this overlapping continues, much effort will be wasted, whilst the members of societies will not only be called upon to pay increased charges, but will be deprived of the advantages that the consolida-

tion of societies would bring. We shall never realise our ideals until our activities conform to our co-operative principles; in no particular does our movement need reconstruction more than in this. I am delighted to know that we are now moving in the right direction. Several important schemes of amalgamation are now being discussed, but we must redouble our efforts in order that we may effect that amalgamation and consolidation of co-operative effort which is so essential to progress.

Moreover, if we desire to make our societies more efficient, we must abolish all time-limits for committees, and abandon the method by which appointments are made in accordance with a rota system. I am aware that many arguments are advanced in support of a time limit for service on committees, but no unprejudiced person can doubt that a rule compelling persons to retire after a short period of service is equivalent to having committees permanently in the stage of apprenticeship. We need to secure the maximum of administrative ability in our boardrooms, and when the right persons are elected we should not deprive ourselves of their ability by adopting a rule making their retirement compulsory. If incompetent persons secure election to our boards, they may safely be left to the judgment of our members, who will not hesitate to hasten their return to the obscurity from which they ought never to have emerged.

In my opinion, the system of making appointments by rota is a most pernicious one. Under such a system persons are often appointed to do work for which they are entirely unsuited, and no real effort is made to discover whether the individual appointed is capable of efficiently discharging his duties. All appointments should be made solely on the ground of the individual's fitness to do the special work required. No one can contend that this result is secured by the adoption of the rota system. What does happen is that frequently persons are selected to do work for which they have no aptitude. Even when their colleagues have special qualifications for the work the rota is followed. The rota system thus tends to become a device for putting round pegs into square holes. It therefore promotes inefficiency, and the whole movement suffers in consequence.

So much for the present and the past. What of the future? We are to-day living in times the like of which the world has not seen before. A new era is opening before us. What part do we mean to play in the work of remodelling social conditions?

I have said that our trading rivals made many attacks upon us during the period of the war; but their activities have not been confined to offensive warfare only. In every sphere of industry and commerce our opponents have been building up and perfecting their defensive organisations. The wealth which they secured in war-time has not all been dissipated in the form of dividends paid by trading companies. They have created large financial reserves, and the owners of vested interests have never before possessed the economic and financial power which they possess to-day. The policy of amalgamation and consolidation that we must adopt if we desire to strengthen the co-operative movement has long been adopted and was fully carried out by private capitalists during the last few years. By amalgamation, by the acquisition of controlling interests in allied undertakings, by secret agreements between large firms operating in the same industry, and by the modern method of inter-locking directorates, the consolidation of capitalism has been accelerated, and one does not need a vivid imagination to foresee the coming of a time when practically all non-co-operative industry will be controlled by a few privately owned combines, co-operating for their mutual aggrandisement.

Huge organisations have been created, having for their avowed object the production and extension of privately-owned industries. The largest of these organisations, British Industries Limited, has allied to it firms having an aggregate capital of over £4,000,000,000, and its promoters claim that they have two hundred representatives in Parliament who have promised to assist them in the development of their work. Thus, private capitalism has been strengthening its position, whilst seeking to consolidate its power by the use of every available means, with a view to making itself supreme both in the realm of commerce and in the councils of the State.

On the other hand, we find that the workers are everywhere in a state of perpetual unrest. They are no longer content to be

subservient hewers of wood and drawers of water, condemned to work for a mere pittance whilst the employing class amass huge fortunes by the exploitation of their labour. The workers are demanding, and in many cases enforcing, higher standards of life and a voice in the control of the industries whereby they live. Hence the old competitive system is fast coming to an end. The growing demands of the workers cannot possibly be satisfied so long as industry is organised on a competitive basis, and our co-operative principles and methods must therefore become the basis of industrial reorganisation. Conditions were never more favourable for social progress on definitely co-operative lines than they are at present, and it is a matter for profound satisfaction that there is now a very close alliance between the trade union and the co-operative movements. Much good work has been done by the Joint Advisory Council of Trade-unionists and Co-operators, and in the immediate future it is to be expected that practical proposals will be put forward with a view to making the alliance between the two movements closer and still more effective. Co-operation and trade-unionism are natural allies. Working together, there is scarcely any limit to the possibilities that lie before them.

A new spirit must be infused into the world of industry. The adoption of co-operative methods that will enable us to democratise industry and to eliminate private profit-seeking would do much to hasten the reconstruction of our national life on sounder foundations. The influence that the co-operative movement will have on the future of industry will be largely determined by the decisions of the present Congress. Have we sufficient faith in our principles and ideals to seize the present opportunity? Have we sufficient grit and enterprise to grapple with the problems necessary to the development of our movement? Are we prepared to inaugurate a sustained propaganda campaign in order that we may make our movement and its methods known to all those who are seeking a solution for the industrial problems of our time? On the replies that we give to these questions our future prospects will depend.

I hold that we should at once organise a national campaign for the purpose of securing a largely-increased membership, and

that we should not rest satisfied until every potential co-operator has been brought within our ranks. The trade of our movement must also be developed; not merely by increasing the number of its members, but by increasing the trade and loyalty of our present membership. In the Trade Section of their Report, the Co-operative Survey Committee have exposed our weakness in this matter of individual purchasing. Every society should thoroughly investigate the facts relating to its own trade and membership with a view to remedying the conditions that cause members to be disloyal to their own stores. We need more departments of co-operative trade, and, in districts where these cannot be established by individual societies, two or more societies should join together for the purpose of creating new centres of co-operative activity. Nothing should be considered too small or too large to be brought within our co-operative trading systems. If our trade is to be developed, we shall require more capital. I am optimistic enough to believe that this will be one of the least of our difficulties. Given efficient and enterprising management of our societies, capital will be attracted to us, and, if we provide ample facilities for the investment of the people's savings as share or loan capital or small savings-bank deposits, the co-operative movement will become the People's Banker to an ever-increasing extent. Thus, while we are serving our members' interests, they will provide the capital necessary to our future progress.

It is none the less necessary that steps should be taken to remove the £200 limit now imposed by the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts upon individual shareholdings. Apart from any other consideration, the fall in the value of money since the time when the maximum of £200 was inserted in that Act is a sufficient reason why the restriction should be removed. The movement should exert its power in every direction to secure the removal of this limitation without delay. Happily, many trade unions, friendly societies, and other working-class organisations are beginning to recognise the value of the co-operative movement when dealing with their financial affairs. From the point of view of both banking and investment such bodies have much to gain by investing their funds in co-operative undertakings; but our appeal

for their assistance will be considerably strengthened when we can announce that all capital invested in co-operative societies is used to develop co-operative trade and industry. If I may use an Americanism, I would say that it is "up to us" to see that our own societies are doing their duty in this important matter.

Much has been said and written concerning the urgent need that co-operators should control the sources of supply and the supplies of raw material. I do not think it necessary for me to further labour the point, except to say that as we successfully develop our activities on these lines we shall be freeing ourselves from the toll levied upon us by those who have hitherto exploited the people for their own enrichment. We must, however, carry our co-operative activities still further. Our recent experience has taught us that no nation can live unto itself. Trade and commerce have become international, and we must discover how to apply our principles in the sphere of international trading. Co-operation is fast beginning to be—if, indeed, it has not already become—a world movement, and we must now consider ways and means whereby we in this country can co-operate with co-operators in other countries in building up an international co-operative trade, organised and conducted by our own co-operative organisations. With the coming of peace, it will be possible for us to renew the work of the International Co-operative Alliance, and it is to be hoped that no time will be lost in creating an international organisation that will foster and promote international trading relationships between all the co-operative organisations of the world.

This country is still looked up to by the co-operators of all countries as the founder of the Rochdale system of co-operation. If our Wholesale Societies could now proceed to initiate a movement to establish an International Co-operative Wholesale Society, the good feeling that exists between foreign co-operators and ourselves would be strengthened and the realm of co-operative trade and enterprise extended to a very remarkable degree. I am convinced that if the English and Scottish Wholesale Societies were to take action along these lines they would have the cordial support of both the co-operative movement and the International Co-opera-

tive Alliance, whilst the Co-operative Union would be prepared to do all in its power to bring their enterprise to a successful issue. I feel that the possibilities are so great, and the times so propitious, that no time should be lost. The whole movement is ready and waiting for a lead in this direction, and all true co-operators are prepared to support a movement intended to develop co-operative international trade for the benefit of the people of all lands.

I have already said that we must secure all the knowledge necessary to the securing of greater efficiency in our co-operative societies. Let me now refer to other aspects of co-operative education. The Co-operative Union, through its Education Department, has long been endeavouring to build up a complete system of education for co-operators, and in recent years much progress has been made. The Summer School and Week-end School movements have developed with remarkable rapidity, and I hope they will continue to grow until every district covered by the Co-operative Union has its permanent Week-end School. Prospective developments already planned, which will be proceeded with as funds are available, include improved facilities for research work and technical training, the appointment of travelling teachers, propagandists, and organisers, and the organisation of young co-operators. In addition, provision will be made for the tuition of whole-time students at Holyoake House. Here I may mention that, during the past year, we have had several students from abroad, sent by their respective governments, studying at Holyoake House, under the direction of our Adviser of Studies. Definite arrangements have recently been made for other students to engage in research work at the Union's headquarters during the coming session. As you are aware, the proposal to establish a Co-operative College has been under discussion for some time, and certain definite proposals are to be submitted to this Congress.

Unfortunately, education is too often looked upon by many co-operators as a luxury and not as a necessity. To the thoughtful co-operator education can never appear as other than a necessity of co-operative life. If we are to achieve our ideals and establish a co-operative commonwealth we must produce men and women

competent to create that commonwealth and to make it a success when it has been established. It is our misfortune that we have been trained in individualism. Those who form a majority of the community still take an individualistic view of society. If we wish co-operation to succeed, we must strive to produce people who have been trained in co-operative principles and who are animated by the co-operative spirit.

When the mass of our fellow-citizens recognise that co-operation is the only moral and just basis upon which human society can properly rest; when they are convinced that their welfare is bound up with that of their fellows in every effort to promote the common good of all mankind, we shall be a long distance on the road toward the co-operative commonwealth. The medium through which men can best be brought to recognise the value of co-operation, convinced of the inter-dependence of human welfare, and prepared for work in association with their fellow-men, is education, and that education must be of a co-operative character. Education to make men more efficient machines, more efficient to compete with others, and to earn a shilling a week more than neighbours is not what is required. The education that will help us to get more out of life, that will make us less like machines and more like men and women than we are to-day, is what we need. We need education that will help us to co-operate more effectively, and this kind of education can only be provided by those who believe in brotherhood and co-operation. That is why we need special co-operative education that will develop a co-operative consciousness in our members and help us to carry all our co-operative activities to greater success. We have great problems to face, and unless we are as well educated and as well trained as our competitors we shall not succeed in solving those problems. This is yet another reason why we should foster co-operative education and recognise it as one of our greatest necessities. Our movement is built upon the loyalty of the individual member, and unless he understands our objects and loyally works for them he will never be a hundred-per-cent co-operator. It is through education that we must give him this understanding and develop his loyalty to co-operation.

Our position in regard to political action calls for some comment

from me as the President of this Congress. For many years we have had our Parliamentary Committee to watch our interests, and now we have a Co-operative Parliamentary Representation Committee, established to secure direct representation for our movement in all the councils of the State. We are threatened with a big fight on the question of our liability to income tax. The Commission which has been set up to deal with the question of income tax is specifically charged with the duty of reviewing the position of co-operative societies in relation to the taxation of incomes, and we have now to state our case before a Parliamentary tribunal. As co-operators, we seek no favours at the hands of the State, but we will not submit to injustice. Our liability to income tax already transcends the limit of what is fair and equitable in comparison with the tax imposed on other taxpayers, and we must use the present opportunity not merely to resist the imposition of further taxation upon our savings, but also to secure the removal of our present grievance. This question of income tax is but one of many political questions in which we have a deep concern. The resolutions to be submitted to this Congress show how greatly the co-operative movement is interested in national politics. As a movement we are in politics, and, even if we so wished, we could not refrain from political action. The political State, acting through its various departments, touches our movement at many points. Our activities are so multifarious that in order to protect ourselves from the attacks made upon us in Parliament by our trading rivals we are compelled to take political action. But we are not in politics simply in order that we may defend our own interests. We believe that co-operation is more than a method of trading. Co-operation is a mode of life; a vital principle which we desire to see adopted in every phase of social life. Individualism has been tried, and the present conditions that disgrace our nation are the result. Everywhere in society we see the two extremes of wealth and poverty; the millionaire and the pauper, the mansion and the slum; while higher education is still the preserve of the few and ignorance the enforced condition of the many. We cannot allow the present conditions to continue. Co-operative principles must be applied by the State, the munici-

palities, and our own co-operative societies, in order that the resources of Nature may be so co-operatively organised by those who work either by hand or brain that every child born into the world shall have the chance to develop its talents and to live a full, complete, and happy life. In politics, as in industry, co-operators stand for the application of co-operative principles in all human relationships.

In international affairs, as in national politics, we have our part to play as co-operators. The events of the last few years clearly demonstrate the urgent necessity for the introduction of a more co-operative spirit into all international relationships. The League of Nations must be made a living reality. Governments and great rulers must be made to realise that the peoples of the world can be no longer played with as pawns upon a chess-board. Human life and the common interests of humanity are so sacred that we dare not return to the old methods of settling international disputes. The historic city in which we are meeting this year has in the past been the scene of many bitter conflicts between the different peoples who dwell in these islands. Just as these conflicts have been ended by the co-operation of all as one great people, so must all wars be ended in the larger field of international affairs and so must reason and co-operative effort take their place. We who are assembled here in this great Congress as the representatives of the co-operative movement have great responsibilities, but we enjoy great privileges. To a large extent we are the architects of the future of mankind, and as we plan and work out the application of our co-operative principles we are making the world better and brighter for those who are to come after us. The old Persian poet and philosopher, in one of his most famous stanzas, declares that—

“The moving finger writes; and having writ,
Moves on; nor all thy piety nor wit
Shall lure it back to cancel half a line,
Nor all thy tears wash out a word of it.”

We are the writers of our times; and it is of the highest importance in these days of world upheaval that we should devote ourselves more whole-heartedly than ever before to the realisation

of our great ideals. By and through our co-operation we can make this world a place of prosperity and social peace. As co-operators we possess a glorious heritage. Thanks to the labour and sacrifice of those who have gone before, we possess a great organisation, a freedom, power, and culture that we can use to promote the mental, moral, and material progress of mankind. As the stewards and trustees of this great inheritance let us reconsecrate ourselves to the work of co-operation. Let us not rest nor become faint-hearted until we have firmly laid and well established the foundations of the new social order, that true human society, to which we refer when we speak of the Co-operative Commonwealth yet to be.

FOREIGN 'DELEGATIONS.

The CHAIRMAN at this point stated that the representatives from foreign countries would be introduced.

The GENERAL SECRETARY read letters of regret from Denmark, Holland, and Norway, and announced the number of delegates present from the various countries on the Continent.

The CHAIRMAN: I am going to ask Mr. Bertrand, from Belgium, to address the Congress.

Mr. LOUIS BERTRAND (speaking in French) said: Mr. President and dear Co-operators,—My first words this morning should be words of thanks to the co-operators of Great Britain for the fraternal help they have given to the Belgian co-operative societies, oppressed so hardly by the war and the German occupation. In the first days of battle-madness, when the soldiers of the Kaiser brutally swept on Belgium, it was an orgy of theft, of systematic destruction and unspeakable cruelties by them.

At Liege, in the first place, several of our societies had their premises burnt down. Then followed Dinant, Tamines, Auvélais, and others. Where the buildings were respected, as at Louvain, for example, all was pillaged—wines, liqueurs, cigars, cloth, boots, and shoes. At Auvélais, the safe was opened and the papers scattered. Our societies, through this, suffered more than 1,000,000 francs loss. Later, with the occupation, our societies had again to suffer by the repeated requisitions of goods, horses, and vehicles. The war, from this point of view, was organised robbery.

In spite of these misfortunes and troubles, and in spite of the presence of the enemy, who occupied our unhappy country for more than four years, in spite of the difficulties caused by an almost general stoppage of industries, the co-operative movement did not remain inactive. Work went on for the concentration of our institutions. In our industrial districts, where there existed before the war a separate co-operative society for each district,

we are now engaged in amalgamating them into one society. At Liege, the "L'union Co-operative" Society has absorbed all the local societies, which are now branches of the mother society. The same movement of concentration is now going on at Borinage, also in the district of Charleroi and other places. This new form of co-operative organisation is continuing, and will give, without doubt, a strength and a power to the Belgian co-operative movement hitherto unknown. Whilst our oldest principal societies are re-organising themselves on a more solid basis, new societies have been formed to give a legal, commercial form to the various organisations created to combat misery and help in food distribution.

In this manner, co-operative societies were founded for the purchase of wheat, abroad and at home, working under an exclusive monopoly given by decree of the German governing body. Other co-operative societies were formed to supply the needs of towns and provinces, of communal stores, communal butcheries, and popular restaurants, and for the transport of goods in common, for war risks &c. The co-operative movement thus became more popular than ever amongst all classes.

During the foreign occupation, 639 new co-operative societies were formed in this way. In 1915, 136; in 1916, 150; in 1917, 221, in 1918, 132; total 639. Specified, the details for 1917 are: Savings and credit societies, 83; distributive, 70; official supply, 17; productive, 14; electricity, 5; purchasing and selling, 11; insurance 4; and various, 17.

You therefore see that we did not remain inactive during the horrible nightmare of the world war. Now, a few words in conclusion. With the revival of industry, which alas is going on slowly, the Belgian co-operative movement will also take new life. The population that during the war suffered from hunger and which witnessed the odious practices of private trade, a population exploited by speculators and shameless monopolists, will wish to free itself from these middlemen. A glorious future is open for co-operative societies, providing that our societies can find the necessary credit, a credit on long terms that will allow societies, stripped of all their material, burnt out, destroyed, to have a fresh start in life, and that permits other societies to re-constitute their pre-war financial position. The future of co-operation in Belgium is bound up with a long and important financial credit and the sending of goods. From an international point of view there are also big things to accomplish. During the war, and since then also, a great American citizen, Mr. Hoover, has directed the food supplies of Belgium and the North of France, and of Europe afterwards. This director of food supplies has rendered signal service to the hungry peoples. He has set us a great example. We should organise a wholesale organisation which will render great service to the co-operative movement. Let our English and Scottish friends take the initiative in this great new work and with the help of all, it will succeed.

"Vivent" the co-operators of Great Britain! "Vive" the International Co-operative Alliance!

GREETINGS FROM FINLAND.

MR. EMIL STAVENHAGEN, who spoke in English, on behalf of the Finnish Co-operative Wholesale Society, known as "S.O.K.," of which he is a director, and of the Finnish Co-operative Union, brought greetings and hope. He said: On behalf of the Finnish Co-operative Wholesale Society ("S.O.K.") and the General Union of the Finnish Co-operative Societies, I have the honour of greeting you, co-operators of Great Britain and Ireland.

The stirring events to which the whole world may be said to have been subjected during the last few years, have affected Finland and her co-operative movement also. The world war, though Finland was not drawn into the theatre of war, brought about a great disturbance in the economic life and great difficulties to the regular operations of the co-operative societies and their wholesale society. On the other hand, the hard times and the exorbitant prices charged by private traders taught consumers better than the eloquence of any agitator to seek shelter within the co-operative societies, and thus the Finnish co-operative movement has during the past years gained considerable strength.

But while the co-operative movement, in spite of all difficulties, has steadily grown stronger and enlarged its field of operations, the internal strifes which showed themselves at an early date, developed to such an extent that they, first in 1916, at the General Union of Co-operative Societies, and afterwards at the Finnish Co-operative Wholesale Society, resulted in a perfect cleavage of the co-operative movement. Since then there have been two branches of the co-operative movement, a *neutral* one, the central organisations of which are the General Union and the "S.O.K."; and a *socialistic* one having central organisations of its own. The neutral co-operative movement, however, has supporters within all parties, and amongst both national elements of the country, namely the Finnish and Swedish speaking peoples. As a proof of how vigorously the Finnish neutral co-operative movement has developed in spite of the cleavage, I beg to mention a few figures for the years 1913 and 1918:—

	1913.		1918.
Membership of the "S.O.K."	196	..	494
Individual members	49,230	..	170,736
Sales	36,680,551 F. Marks.		356,166,380 F. Marks.
Surplus	1,214,486	„	17,035,267 „
Sales of the "S.O.K."	22,967,742	„	107,715,834 „
Surplus	189,140	„	3,615,572 „

The considerable rise in the sales is, of course, to a great extent due to the exorbitant prices of goods, but as there has been a scarcity of articles of consumption, the increasing supply of goods will amply compensate the increase in prices. And it will find a still better compensation in the constantly growing number of supporters amongst the co-operative societies. The socialistic co-operative societies also seem to prosper, and they on their part promote the co-operative organisation of the consumers.

You, British friends, are, of course, not in a position to understand in detail the conditions of a little country like Finland, and all the causes and consequences to which the last-mentioned events are due. But I beg you to be convinced that Finland is a democratic country, and that all people are equal in point of law. The social legislation—after release from the Russian Government—has gained ground, and the political parties compete in progressiveness.

In speaking of political operations I must not forget to mention that co-operators are very powerfully represented in the Finnish Diet. Likewise have co-operators been ministers in all Governments which have been in power since Finland was declared independent. Thus there are in the present Government five ministers who are co-operators. I think I can give you the assurance that henceforth no ministry could be formed where co-operators were not represented.

The neutral co-operators of Finland have, however, according to their programme, taken up a decidedly negative attitude with regard to political activity. They have, however, not been obliged, like you, British friends, to devise another mode of procedure, because in various parties the co-operators' demands have been taken into consideration more or less voluntarily. We are thus in this respect in a comparatively fortunate position, and we shall take care that this state of things is not changed to our disadvantage.

British friends, the Finnish co-operators have always thought it important for their own success to enjoy cordial relations with your nation; and we have with sincere pleasure observed the sympathy with which the flourishing and at all times exemplary co-operative movement of Great Britain has followed our modest results in the sphere of co-operation. Now that peace is about to be made and international intercourse is facilitated and the co-operative work done for the benefit of international peace is likely to come into its unlimited rights, we hasten to accept your invitation to arrive at this Congress, in the firm belief that the cordial relations which have hitherto prevailed between us will gain further strength. We have, ever since the example set us by the Rochdale Pioneers, learnt much from you, and we know that at all times we shall have much to learn from your powerful co-operative organisations. We know also that you will be glad to guide us.

I have, further, with gratitude to express before the British public the joy felt by the Finnish nation on account of Great Britain's recognition of the independence of Finland. This noble act towards a people, who for centuries have suffered grievously, will never be forgotten by the Finnish nation. This friendship shown by powerful Great Britain towards Finland, and the friendly relations between Great Britain and Finnish co-operators, will form a lasting bond between our two peoples. The representatives of the Finnish co-operators wish the best success to the proceedings of this Congress.

A MESSAGE FROM MR. ALBERT THOMAS.

Mr. ALBERT THOMAS (France) delivered his remarks in French, and afterwards Mr. OUALID (also a representative from France) translated the address. Mr. Thomas expressed his apologies at his inability to address the Congress in English, but he wished to let British co-operators know that in spite of the great troubles in Paris at the time he was anxious to attend Carlisle and bring the greetings of all French co-operators. Delegates would be aware that in Paris a great number of men were on strike—more than 400,000 men were out of work on account of the great difficulties of life—and the problem which was before them was the problem which was actually before all people all over the world. These men were trying to get increased wages because their wages were not of their previous value owing to prices going higher and higher. In addition, every workman was feeling that he had greater needs to-day than he had yesterday. The man who had worked during the war in the workshops or the mine, the man who had fought for his country and for liberty, came back with new needs and new wants and required them to be satisfied. Industry and trade were hesitating, whether free trade or protection would find the necessary way out of the present difficulties he could not say, but it was only in the co-operative societies that they found some organisation, and it was only in the co-operative movement that they could find the prospects of a new world organisation. The pioneers of Rochdale, when they started their movement, did not think it would be in such circumstances that an opportunity would occur to try the powers of co-operation, but co-operators of to-day knew it was only in the co-operative movement they could find a settlement of the great difficulties they had to face at present. During the war, France, America, England, Italy, and Belgium had organised their resources in order to fight the common enemy—Germany. To-day a greater enemy was opposing mankind—it was misery; and they had to fight misery by the international organisation of the world on co-operative lines. How would they find a settlement, he asked. Was it in unregulated free trade? Was it in regulated protection? He thought it was in new methods of distribution and production of goods. He greeted the movement in which they were taking part. He had listened with joy to the declarations of their president; they testified that their ideas were common to all co-operators throughout the world. When he was in Glasgow some years ago he expressed a hope that co-operation might be able to prevent the outbreak of war. That hope had not been fulfilled; but to-day he thought co-operation would take them out of their difficulties. He concluded by greeting the great co-operative movement and saluting the future of the movement which would lead the world.

Mr. E. POISSON (secretary, National Federation of Distributive Societies in France) gave his message through his colleague, Mr. Oualid. He said: The French co-operators have approved the attitude adopted by the Executive Committee of the International Co-operative Alliance during

the war. The British co-operators, who were the only members of that committee, had a very heavy burden to keep the common organisation in being. They have done so ; but they understood also that a too early meeting either of the committee or of the Congress before the conclusion of peace, would have brought about a result opposite to their purpose. The meetings could not have been successful, on account of material and moral reasons. They might have led to a breaking up of the Alliance or to the withdrawal of some of the fractions of which it consisted. However, the committee have done their best to keep as close a relationship as possible. They have kept sending sound information through the Bulletin, which has never stopped its publication in three languages, and they have gathered and spread the news available on the situation in the various countries. The French co-operators give their entire approval to this attitude. They consider, however, that once the peace is signed, the International Co-operative Alliance ought to resume its activities with the shortest delay. They have even suggested to the Executive Committee the advisability of opening and carrying out an inquiry amongst the affiliated societies and the new bodies created during the war in consequence of the breaking up of some states and the coming to life of new nations. They considered that this inquiry ought to have been made, not only by correspondence but also with the assistance of the delegates of the Bureau. It might have asked the conditions in which the various co-operative bodies had endeavoured to carry out the resolutions of the Glasgow Congress concerning peace. It might have made inquiries especially in regard to the development of the co-operative movement during the war and its conditions and prospects in every nation. At the same time, the co-operative organisations would have made known the conditions in which and the form under which they estimated that the life of the Alliance was to be resumed. But the French co-operators also thought there was something more to be done in order to hasten the moment at which international co-operation would mark its place and testify its vitality. They took the initiative of convening a first Inter-Allied Co-operative Conference. This conference was held in February and resolutions were carried unanimously. We had the pleasure to meet there delegates of the British Co-operative Union and of the English, Scottish, and Irish Wholesale Societies. The French co-operators have convened an Inter-Allied and Neutral Conference to be held in Paris on the 26th, 27th, and 28th June, and have invited their British friends to attend it. The Co-operative Union have already sent their acceptance. As to the English and Scottish Wholesales we most heartily press upon them the necessity of being represented at that conference. According to the French co-operators those two meetings are the preliminary steps towards the unavoidable resumption of international intercourse. These meetings will facilitate and prepare the general meeting of the Alliance. If we had acted otherwise we might have risked a breaking-up instead of hastening things. By acting as we did, we avoided giving to co-operators of neutral

countries the impression that we are deferring uselessly the time of the International Meeting. Moreover, by so doing we showed that it was in the framework of the Alliance that we intended to pursue our action. Therefore we insisted on obtaining the agreement of the Executive Committee and the direct representation of this as an advisory body at the meetings mentioned above. We go still further. We desire to strengthen the position of our British friends at the head of the Alliance, for we do not conceive that the seat of the committee could do better outside England, the birthplace of distributive co-operation. But for this very reason we think also that it is necessary to let all British co-operative organisations take part at the meetings and prepare for the resuscitation of the Alliance. Practically, we will ask the Neutral and Inter-Allied Conference to invite the Executive Committee to meet in two months herefrom. The meeting of this Executive Committee might take place according to the decision of the Glasgow Congress. That is to say, all the members of the Central Committee present in London on that day and who should be notified, might attend it. At this meeting of the enlarged Executive Committee would be considered the programme, the date and the place of the first full committee meeting. British co-operators, we must work together to-morrow, to march in the van of the co-operative movement of which you have been the initiators and the promoters and on which you carry still a great responsibility. We are quite ready to co-operate with you and to act heartily with you. That is why we thought it necessary to give you the reasons of our present action.

Mr. A. J. CLEUET (president of the French Wholesale Society) also gave his address through the medium of Mr. Oualid. Mr. Cleuet said: I rejoice to find myself among the British co-operators. I have already attended previous meetings, especially the Congresses of Swansea and Aberdeen, of which I have kept a very pleasant souvenir, and I hope the present Congress will be very successful. I am happy to inform the meeting that the development of the French Wholesale has been particularly important during the war. The French co-operators attach a great importance to the problems of international trading, and therefore I desire to state as briefly and yet as completely as possible how it presents itself. The problem of the trading relations to be set up between the central wholesales, members of the International Co-operative Alliance, has been dealt with at the Co-operative Congresses of Cremona, Hamburg, and Glasgow. During the war, it has been approached at the Inter-Allied Co-operative Conference of Paris (22nd and 23rd September, 1916). But the discussion that took place in those meetings led only to theoretical resolutions. Nothing has been seriously attempted to carry them into practice.

At the second Inter-Allied Co-operative Conference held in Paris on the 7th and 8th February, 1919, the question of trading relations has again been raised, and it has been decided to create an Inter-Allied Co-operative Committee for assistance to co-operative societies in the devastated areas. This Inter-Allied Co-operative Committee has been entrusted with the

establishment of an International Co-operative Bureau of Statistical and Commercial Information, and the study of the best means of setting up trading relations between the wholesales of the various countries. Direct representatives of British, Irish, Belgian, French, Italian, and Czecho-Slovak wholesales were called upon to constitute this Bureau. The question seemed to be ripe for a rapid solution. Unfortunately it was a vain hope. Three meetings held in London and Paris led to no decision. At the last meeting, in Paris, on the 25th April last, we regretted the absence of the delegates of the English and Scottish Wholesales. We hope their absence was not due to a decision on their side not to take any part in the working of the co-operative committee. For, without the wholehearted and complete assistance of the English and Scottish Wholesales, the other European Wholesales are not able to play in the domain of international economic action a part worthy of co-operation. We perfectly understand that there are other ways of conceiving the establishment and working of this Co-operative Committee. We think especially that in the near future its representation might be enlarged. But at the time when French co-operators convened conferences of co-operators of different countries it was not possible to come to a decision through a different method. Our purpose was to set up permanent trading relations between wholesales, and we adapted ourselves to circumstances. Moreover, we had to act rapidly in order to supply co-operative societies of the countries stricken by the war and exchange with them some commodities. The Inter-Allied Co-operative Committee was to give us these means of action. Therefore, the establishment of an Inter-Allied Co-operative Committee had a twofold purpose : to set up an Information and Statistical Bureau, and to practise an act of co-operative solidarity towards the societies of Serbia, Czecho-Slovakia, Ukraine, and Archangel, of which the delegates came to expound the distress. The idea is going on. Nothing can stop it. It is the desire of the co-operators of the whole world. The English and the Scottish Wholesales have already got into association with various branches and the Scandinavian Wholesales have set up a Co-operative Union of the North. The French, Belgian, Italian, Norwegian, and Swiss Wholesales exchange letters in view of future commercial intercourse. Why not extend the movement ? We must not get only two or three wholesales together. We must unite them with a view to common action. Such is the question which we raised before the Inter-Allied Conference and which we shall raise again as long as a satisfactory reply has not been given to it. The steps to be taken in order to achieve this result are as follows. —

- (a) Establishment of an International Statistical and Trading Information Bureau ;
- (b) Setting up of permanent trading relationship between wholesales ;
- (c) Association of wholesales for the organisation of production and exploitation of plantations ;
- (d) Creation of an International Wholesale.

In the meanwhile, the French co-operators hold that wholesales must not let their activity overlap their national limits without agreeing beforehand. Without this preliminary agreement we might provoke between the wholesales competition which we should avoid in co-operative circles. We have often deplored the existence of competition when too many societies are established in the same city or locality and sometimes in the same part of a city. What we deplore for the local societies we have to prevent between the wholesales before it becomes general. Co-operators have always agreed that we must eradicate competition between ourselves and not fall into the evils of the competitive system of individualistic trading. Such are the declarations I have received the mandate to make before this large meeting of British co-operators, and especially the ones who represent here the English and Scottish Wholesale Societies. I greet once more the delegates here present from all parts of Europe.

After reading the remarks of his colleagues, Mr. OUALID said : In the name of the French delegates I thank you for your cordial welcome, and renew our wishes for the success and prosperity of British and International co-operation.

THE RUSSIAN DELEGATION.

Mr. ASANTCHEEF, speaking on behalf of the Russian delegation, said : Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen, fellow-co-operators,—I have the honour to convey to you and this Congress of the great British Co-operation which you represent, the heartfelt greetings of the Russian Central Co-operative Organisations, and the Joint London Committee of Russian Co-operative Organisations, which has been formed for the purpose of co-ordinating our work in this country. British co-operation is the parent of the Russian co-operative movement, and the principles laid in the foundation of your movement have been assimilated in Russia, and still further extended and developed to suit the peculiar conditions of Russian life. Young as it is, Russian Co-operation has made tremendous strides, and its remarkable progress can be judged from the following data. It is estimated that there are in Russia now 54,000 individual co-operative societies, with about 22 million member-householders, representing a population of one hundred million persons, or over half of the total population of Russia in its pre-war boundaries. The Russian Co-operation owns and operates 1,776 industrial plants. A characteristic feature of Russian co-operation is the diversity of its forms and activities, embracing organisations for distribution, credit, marketing, and production. The striking growth of agricultural co-operation deserves special mention. Here we find, on the one hand, the All-Russian Agricultural Purchasing Union, supplying the peasants with all the requisites of their industry, and, on the other, a number of formidable unions, controlling the marketing of some special product, such as grain, flax, butter, tar, timber, &c. Finally, an extremely important part in the life of Russian co-operation belongs to its non-commercial activity, expressed

in its publishing enterprise, its educational institutions, and all other kinds of social and cultural work. The years of war which have undermined the economic life of belligerent nations, have also been the years of the greatest development of co-operation in all countries, and particularly so in Russia. And this is not to be wondered at, seeing that during this period the anti-social sides of the capitalist system have revealed themselves in all their nakedness. The people to suffer most from this were, of course, the toiling masses, who bore on their shoulders the whole burden of the war, like which there has been no other in the history of mankind. The masses, naturally, have tried to find some means of defending their economic interests, and in Russia they have found such means in the democratic co-operative organisations which they themselves created. Side by side with its plodding every-day work of organising the labouring population, co-operation is also entering on the path of international economic relations. Thus, the ideal laid as the basis of co-operation, namely, the solidarity of the toiling masses irrespective of nationality, is now on its way to actual realisation. The entry of co-operation upon this path is dictated not only by its commercial interests, but, principally, by the events of social character which are taking place in our life. Here co-operation points to a truly constructive way of solving a number of the most difficult social problems of to-day. If its solution of these problems cannot at present be regarded as final, it, at least, helps mankind to bring about the realisation of the ideal of universal fraternity on the basis of labour. At the present time, Russian co-operation is endeavouring to establish business relations with co-operative organisations in other countries, and particularly in the United Kingdom. With the feeling of sincere gratitude we have to acknowledge the splendid help we receive in this direction from the British co-operative wholesale societies. The Russian co-operator never forgets any kindness and favour shown to him in time of need. We expect that in a very short time we shall be able to furnish the British co-operators with timber for their houses, wheat and butter for their table, flax for their cloth, and many other articles. We hope that the people of England and Russia will hold out their hands to one another through their co-operative organisations. We wish success to the present Congress, and trust that it will frame a number of practical proposals for joint work with Russian co-operation.

THE SWEDISH DELEGATION.

Mr. GJORES, who was next called upon to speak on behalf of the Swedish delegation, said: It is with great pleasure that co-operators in Sweden have accepted the friendly invitation from the Co-operative Union to visit this Congress. Co-operation is, in its very nature, an international movement and needs for its development active connections between the co-operators of various countries—connections supported by the spirit of good-fellowship and fraternity, which are the soul and impelling power of our common efforts. We, in Sweden, in consequence of the geographical position

of our country, are more obliged than others, perhaps, to keep in contact with the great countries that have been the pioneers of the co-operative movement, and it is therefore with special pleasure that we greet this opportunity of once more participating in the international meetings of co-operation now that the war is over. It gives me no little pleasure to point out that lively connections have always existed between British and Swedish co-operation, and I am equally pleased to remind you that the development of the co-operative movement in Sweden has been in a high degree promoted by the advice and experience received and gained from the birthplace of the co-operative movement. The spirit animating English co-operators ever since the days of the Rochdale Pioneers and at the present hour, and the perseverance and the far-seeing enterprise with which British co-operators endeavour to carry forward their work to a great and decisive victory, all this is a living and inspiring example for us. The war—that great crime against humanity and civilisation—which has caused so much suffering to the nations of Europe, both the combatant and the neutral, and which has paralysed so many noble efforts, has placed formidable difficulties in the path of co-operation also. The scarcity of goods has made it difficult for our organisations to satisfy the growing demands made by a constantly increasing circle of organised customers, and has compelled us during the years of conflict to seriously limit our work of propaganda. But if the war in this manner has had a paralysing influence on our work, it has, at the same time, awakened the consumers to a consciousness of the fact that in co-operation they possess their greatest security and surest defence against the mighty forces that make use of every opportunity to exploit consumers. It is because of this that we look forward to the future with a firm confidence that, during the coming years, our organisations will grow in strength and extend as they have never done before. The turnover in our wholesale society has more than doubled during the past months of the present year, and we entertain lively hopes that this development will continue on the same scale. While the turnover in our wholesale trade during the past year amounted to £1,541,850, the total sum for the first five months of this year amounted to £1,371,145, and at the same time that our wholesale business has thus developed, our local co-operative societies have also been growing in numbers. For the purpose of better utilising the power possessed by the organised consumers, the Co-operative Wholesale of Sweden, together with the corresponding societies in Denmark and Norway, has established a common wholesale society, the “Nordisk Andelsförbund” (the Scandinavian Co-operative Wholesale). The task of this society is to make common purchases for the Scandinavian co-operators of all goods which can be suitably bought in this way; to establish factories and, in every way, rationally utilise the resources at the command of Scandinavian co-operation. In a short time, therefore, the Scandinavian Co-operative Wholesale will open an office in London. In the establishment of this common Scandinavian Wholesale we see an event of the greatest importance, and we believe

the co-operators in all countries should endeavour by mutual co-operation to solve common problems. It is with great pleasure, therefore, that we greet the plans for the establishment of an international wholesale society, that have been discussed by the Inter-Allied Co-operative Conference in Paris. Difficulties are to be expected, of course, in the carrying out of this plan, but we shall overcome these obstacles by our united efforts and by faithful adherence to the high ideals that inspire co-operation, and which the British co-operators have so successfully proved can be made a reality.

GREETINGS FROM THE SWISS UNION.

The following speech by M. MAIRE, one of the Swiss delegates, was delivered in English by Dr. Suter, one of his colleagues :—It is a great honour and, at the same time, a great pleasure for my friends, Dr. Suter and Mr. Duaine, members of the Supervising Committee of the Swiss Union of Distributive Societies, as well as for myself, to be the bearers to you of the fraternal greetings of Swiss co-operators. For four years, the terrible scourge which has afflicted the world, with its aftermath of still incalculable effect, has prevented us from attending your Congresses, to which we always looked forward with such eagerness. From afar, however, we have watched the marvellous development of your undertakings, and rejoiced at the progress of the co-operative movement in your country. We were pleased to note the considerable increase in your trade, and your many acquisitions of works and estates. Our interest and admiration have also been keenly aroused in the great schemes to which you are now devoting your energies. It may, perhaps, also interest you to know that during the war the co-operative movement in Switzerland has also made progress. It has gained morally and materially. In spite of open enmity, which we have always encountered, and of secret hostility still frequently experienced, our movement has attracted many sympathisers. It receives more favourable consideration in official circles—local, Canton, and State—which formerly did not attribute to it all the importance it deserved. Amongst the people and throughout the whole co-operative body, the principles and practice of co-operation have become more widely known and appreciated. From a material standpoint, our trade has considerably increased : from one and three quarter millions sterling in 1913, it reached nearly five and a half millions in 1918. Of course, high prices account for some of this increase ; but the proportion due to that is off-set by the smaller quantity of goods available for sale. Our Union has widened its sphere of activity by creating societies with special objects, by inaugurating new enterprises, and, in particular by introducing popular insurance. Recently, it has tackled the great problem of agricultural co-operation by purchasing estates and by forming a society for the cultivation of market produce. So far, of course, we have only laid the foundation of a very modest beginning. We are not discouraged, however, quite the contrary. The Rochdale Pioneers, themselves, also started in a very small way, with means miserably inadequate

considering the goal in view; and yet the seed they sowed germinated, developed, multiplied, and the present state of the co-operative movement gives promise of beautiful bloom and magnificent crops not only in England, its native land, but throughout the entire world. However, when we think of the immensity of our task, in spite of the benefits already realised, we are seized with a feeling of melancholy. In recording the fact of the economic collapse of several countries, a disaster which might have been avoided if co-operative organisation had been in a more advanced stage, we ask ourselves if co-operation is abreast with the times, or if, on the other hand, events have not marched with much greater rapidity. We find some consolation in the fact that the co-operative society represents the fundamental idea of economic democracy realised without constraint of any kind, simply by the exercise of the collective will of consumers freely associated. Whatever form the present revolutions and any future ones that may break out amongst the different nationalities may take in their methods of organisation, they cannot be improvements on the solutions proposed by co-operation. Whatever the future may have in store, co-operators have before them the prospect of hard propaganda work and practical organisation. Moreover, if co-operative activity is pushed with sufficient energy, who knows whether it may not succeed in exercising a decisive influence on the economic revolution which is brewing in certain countries, and in guiding it along a path of peaceful yet rapid evolution. We Swiss co-operators will do our utmost to hasten the developments of co-operative organisation; and in this task we shall always have before us the example of you English co-operators, whom we consider as our elder brothers and our models in all things co-operative.

THE UKRAINIAN CO-OPERATIVE UNION.

The following telegram should have been delivered during the sittings of Congress, but owing to being insufficiently addressed it came to hand after the Congress closed :—

“In the name of 10,000 co-operative organisations and of 10,000,000 co-operators of the new Ukrainian Republic I greet you, hoping that the moment will quickly arrive when nothing, not even political questions, will prevent the re-union of the co-operative organisations of the entire world.

E. PELITZA.”

THE TRADES UNION CONGRESS DEPUTATION.

Mr. W. BANFIELD (the general secretary of the Bakers' Union): I am here this morning to carry to this Congress the greetings of the British Trades Union Congress; and I venture to say that of all the delegations the trade union movement sends from time to time this, at this time, is one of the most important. During the last twelve months a very great effort has been put forward to bring into closer unity the two movements, and, I think, with a certain amount of success. At any rate a great many

trade-unionists are pointing out the advantages of doing financial business with the Co-operative Wholesale Bank ; and I, as general secretary of one trade union, rightly say our experience with the Co-operative Wholesale Society's Bank has been of the very best, and should commend itself to all trade-unionists. We are endeavouring, through advisory councils, to get every trade-unionist to be a co-operator, but I think it is more necessary to get all the wives to become co-operators. It is all right going home and telling the wife she has got to join the stores, but she has a way of telling you that you are not the boss exactly ! If we can get the union of the two movements and do away with the suspicion and the mistrust of the past, we are going to wield such a weapon on behalf of the working-class people of this country—for whom both movements cater—that we are bound to play a tremendous part in the future development of the social condition of our people. I am the general secretary of the Bakers' Union, and I can say that the co-operative movement has been of the utmost value and assistance to trade unions like my own in days gone by, when we were not as strong as we are now. I think the co-operative movement is entitled, quite frankly, to the credit of complying with conditions of labour. Only during the last three or four weeks inquiry has shown that a great percentage of co-operative societies have expressed themselves as being willing and ready to do away with night baking in the baking trade. If only you had sent your Labour Advisor to put that view before the Government ! For never before has the Government of this country been so ready to listen to the views of the co-operative movement as at the present time. I venture to hope that within the next twelve months a real effort will be made to do away with the contentions that exist between trade unions catering for co-operative employees. Surely some commonsense method should be adopted. And I hope the Parliamentary Committee will make a real endeavour to bridge over some of the unfortunate differences existing between unions during the last three or four years, so that in co-operation we may have unity. We must never forget that it is just as necessary to get good conditions of labour outside as inside the co-operative movement ; and it is the decided duty of the employees of the co-operative movement not to be content with getting good conditions for themselves but to ask for equally good conditions for the people outside. If we are really and sincerely in earnest in our desire to get unity among the working classes of this country, let us not rest content in saying it is a good thing, but do the best we can to make it a good thing. With all its faults and failings, within the co-operative movement itself lies the future salvation of the workers of the country. We have got away from some of the ideals, but we shall come back to them in the near future. The establishment of the industrial commonwealth is within bounds of practical politics. Support political action through the Labour Party. Whether you like politics or not, you have got to like politics ; and to get your share in politics you have to fight the people where they have to fight you, and that is on the

floor of the House of Commons. If you do not get your people there in face of organised opposition, in face of 200 members of Parliament pledged to support their policy, if you do not take up the challenge you are going to be losers, and big losers. Your enemies are our enemies! Pull together! United we conquer!

GREETINGS FROM THE TEACHERS' UNION.

Mr. J. E. DOGHERTY (National Union of Teachers): I have to convey to this Congress the fraternal greetings of the National Union of Teachers, which has more than 100,000 members, many of whom work in this movement, and work with you in other lines of life. With your great general aim of uplifting the masses of the people we teachers have every sympathy. Still, it is particularly the educational side of your activities that appeals to us. A speaker before me said: Get the wives of co-operators. I would say: Get the children of co-operators. We who are older will join the order of the "has been"; and it is of the utmost importance that we should deal with the army of those that "will be." We are facing the application of a new Education Act, that is meant to break down the doors of privilege and to open new doors, so that we may walk into the preserves that have been kept from us in the past. It is for us who have children to see that those children shall have these opportunities free, without bar of fees or condition, except ability and willingness. I may be forgiven if I say the Government has done its part as it understands it. It would do more if we taught it more. The parents are willing and the children are able, but we see local education authorities that are not willing to do their share. It is an everlasting fight between the forces of freedom and the forces of reaction, and it is up to us to see that in every part of England and Wales the local education authorities shall do their share, and that we shall make them. With the co-operative movement the teachers are in the heartiest sympathy, and I am commissioned to come here to give you their best wishes for a successful Congress and for the prosperity of the movement.

THE INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCE.

Mr. ANEURIN WILLIAMS, M.P. (International Co-operative Alliance): The two previous speakers have referred to that stage of the proceedings as being the end of a long morning. It reminds me of a man who was called upon to speak at the end of a longish meeting, and who remarked to a friend sitting beside him: "I don't suppose they expect a long speech from me." "I think they do," replied the other, "for some of them are going out already." As the delegates are still sitting patiently I presume you do not expect a long speech from me. I come here to-day because the President of the International Alliance, Mr. Maxwell, is not able to be here. He has suffered in health for some time because of his zeal in carrying out the co-operative work he went to do in France and Belgium. According to the

latest information I have, he has recovered very satisfactorily, and we hope he may be with us at many congresses yet, and able to preside over the International Alliance. During the war we, of the International Alliance, have had a very difficult task to fulfil. On the one hand we were connected with the representatives of the great organisations, including the Co-operative Unions of many countries, some of them fighting on our side and some of them, alas, fighting on the other side. The Alliance, therefore, had its work more or less stopped. It could not enter into the struggle; and it could not carry on its work because the communications were interrupted, and it could get little information together. We, here, as Englishmen, were anxious to take our part as Englishmen on the side of our own country. We had these difficulties to contend with. Now the fighting is over we hope that the peace will be signed and ratified before long, and we are looking forward to being able to resume in full measure the great work of the International Alliance, the work of bringing the co-operators of all countries together, in order that the countries themselves may be brought together more completely than in any other way. We should do no good by trying to hasten that day, or rather by being in too great a hurry. The day will come and it will be a blessed day when it does come, when the people of the different countries, having asserted their right to democratic government in their own countries, having put away the whole force of tyranny and class rule and military rule, will be able to show the peoples of the different nations that, having had time to take the government into their own hands, they are willing to live together in terms of humanity and brotherhood. Our work in the Alliance is for all countries. At our co-operative gatherings we often sing, "God bless our native land," but we do not forget other lands.

"Not on this land alone,
But be God's mercies known
From shore to shore!
And may the nations see
That men should brothers be,
And form one family—
The wide world o'er."

THE WOMEN'S GUILD DELEGATION.

Mrs. HOOD (president of the Women's Co-operative Guild), who was welcomed specially, as this was the first occasion upon which the Guild had been invited to send a fraternal delegate to the Congress, said: The 33,000 members of the Guild, the organised women of the co-operative movement, recognise the terrible problems that are confronting the movement. We realise that this war that was going to bring us prosperity and plenty has led to a great disappointment up to the present time. The world was going to be so much better after the war was over, and yet conditions are very much worse. The co-operators of the country will have to put their whole forces together. We in the Guild are going to work to get more members, and to get more members into the co-operative movement. Our member-

ship is increasing by leaps and bounds, and yet we feel that it has not increased as it should have done. We are working in the guild to bring more capital into the movement. We are organising the producers and the consumers. We are going to try to leave our dividends at the store, and we are going to try to do all our insurance through the Co-operative Wholesale Society. We are perfectly willing and anxious to work shoulder to shoulder with the members of the movement, and with the wives of the trade-unionists, so that we may encourage the development of co-operative productive enterprises, and bring about any reformation we want to see for the benefit of the people of England. And it is not our own country alone we have to think about, for England can never be at peace and rest unless the other countries of the world are at peace and rest also; and the only way to bring that about and bring the nations together is through co-operation.

The GENERAL SECRETARY: You will be pleased to know that the Ministry of Labour is represented at the Congress by Mr. J. J. Dent, C.M.G.

The following tellers were proposed and accepted: Messrs. W. G. Kane, C. A. W. Saxton, G. Bedford, A. Horricks, P. Loney, M. H. Clear, W. Brown, R. R. Chappell, representing the various sections, with T. Wood (auditor) as chief teller.

The printed results of the elections to the Central Board had been given out to the delegates, and the list of successful candidates had been published in the co-operative press; the results were therefore held as read.

RESULT OF ELECTIONS.

IRISH EXECUTIVE.

Elected: L. P. Byrne, 38; W. J. McGuffin, 36; J. C. Adams, 35; W. Gray, 35; W. G. Kane, 35; J. Palmer, 35; H. Archer, 32.

Unsuccessful: L. Smith-Gordon, 13; A. McAlester, 3.

MIDLAND SECTION.

Elected: W. Millerchip, 321; J. Millington, 316; G. Bastard, 290; W. Warren, 274; A. H. Jones, 273; W. J. Douce, 270; J. Butcher, 263; J. G. Shacklock, 262; G. Harris, 239; Mrs. M. E. Cottrell, 222; J. Langley, 222.

Unsuccessful: H. Baynes, 184; A. Mann, 106; Wm. Abbotts, 89; W. J. Rogers, 86; J. B. Hicks, 55; H. Tarbox, 51; C. W. Brown, 47; J. Clay, 46; T. Fearn, 41; A. W. Critchley, 29; J. H. Lewis, 28; H. Sanders, 25; W. Darrington, 22; W. W. Hill, 21; A. Fullwood, 17; P. E. Donnelly, 16; J. Armstrong, 14; F. Weekley, 11; W. T. Johnson, 9; H. H. Howkins, 8; T. Buttery, 7; E. Hilton, 6; T. O. Unwin, 6; A. H. Pearey, 5; W. G. Shutt, 5.

NORTHERN SECTION.

District No. 1, North Northumberland:—Elected: J. Davison, 22. Unsuccessful: J. M. Gillians, 11; W. S. Rochester, 1.

District No. 2, South Northumberland :—Elected : J. C. Aiston, 64. Unsuccessful : D. Long, 6 ; W. Northcott, 1.

District No. 3, Cumberland and Westmorland :—Elected : G. Riddle (unopposed).

District No. 4, West Durham and South Northumberland :—Elected : W. Scott, 39. Unsuccessful : J. Dowson, 7 ; J. Smith, 3 ; R. Steel, 3.

District No. 5, East Durham :—Elected : W. R. Rae (unopposed).

District No. 6, South Durham :—Elected : T. Readshaw, 20. Unsuccessful : C. Bowey, 8 ; P. Leonard, 8 ; W. Emery, 7 ; M. Welsh, 6 ; S. Whiteley, 6 ; J. Bell, 4 ; H. Collin, 3 ; D. M'Burnie, 3.

District No. 7, South Durham and North Riding of Yorkshire :—Elected : G. Bedford, 64. Unsuccessful : E. Baxter, 30.

NORTH-WESTERN SECTION.

District Candidates.

Airedale District :—Elected : S. R. Foster (unopposed).

Bolton District :—Elected : S. Fairbrother, 99. Unsuccessful : T. Webster, 24.

Calderdale District :—Elected : J. Greenwood, 29. Unsuccessful : J. Morris, 12 ; Mrs. M. Johnson, 8.

Cheshire and North Wales :—Elected : W. R. Blair, 124. Unsuccessful : W. J. Moss, 11 ; S. C. Hughes, 6 ; E. Seed, 2.

Dewsbury District :—Elected : S. R. Cocker, 32. Unsuccessful : T. Way, 23 ; H. Iles, 18 ; E. Stansfield, 12.

East Yorkshire District :—Elected : G. Goodenough, 41. Unsuccessful : J. Nicholson, 17.

Huddersfield District :—Elected : E. Booth (unopposed).

Macclesfield, Crewe, and District :—Elected : F. Hayward, 62. Unsuccessful : G. Travis, 15 ; J. Brassington, 14.

Manchester District :—Elected : A. Horricks, 48. Unsuccessful : E. Whiteley, 29 ; C. Gregory, 23 ; W. H. Kirkland, 20 ; J. W. Lowe, 8 ; H. Nuttall, 6 ; J. G. Wilkinson, 6 ; J. T. Chapman, 1.

North-East Lancashire District :—Elected : W. Dewhurst (unopposed).

North Lancashire District :—Elected : W. Gregory, 60. Unsuccessful : H. Bygate, 14.

North Lonsdale District :—Elected : W. Swindlehurst (unopposed).

Oldham District :—Elected : F. Houghton (unopposed).

Rochdale District :—Elected : B. Woolfenden (unopposed).

Rossendale District :—Elected : J. Haworth, 17. Unsuccessful : H. Riley, 5.

South Yorkshire District :—Elected : G. Major (unopposed).

Sectional Candidates.

Elected: G. Briggs, 1,015; T. Redfern, 841; J. Johnston, 577; J. Thompson, 468.

Unsuccessful: J. Sharples, 456; Mrs. A. H. Nevitt, 369; J. Dimberline, 352; J. O. Paynter, 211; D. Pogson, 162; J. Upson, 114; R. Hadfield, 111; R. Hargreaves, 98; F. Holmes, 84; G. Lucas, 29; R. Weare, 22; J. Hey, 15; C. W. Faweett, 10.

SCOTTISH SECTION.

Elected: J. Deans, 434; A. Purdie, 413; P. J. Agnew, 369; G. Wilson, 369; P. Loney, 364; N. McLean, 354; J. Lucas, 304; J. Patterson, 274; J. Downie, 196; D. Palmer, 186.

Unsuccessful: A. M. Welsh, 141; J. Muir, 125; Mrs. R. Tulloch, 118; M. Hunter, 95; H. Lyon, 95; D. Mackerron, 80; R. Brownlee, 72; D. Wilson, 71; M. Semple, 63; R. Stuart, 41; W. Anderson, 36; A. Russell, 26; J. Dewar, 25; R. H. Spence, 21; J. Scott, 19; T. McAuslin, 14; H. McMiller, 10.

SOUTHERN SECTION.

Elected: Mrs. M. A. Gasson, 401; W. T. Charter, 331; J. H. Bate, 298; S. Foulger, 278; J. Dickinson, 274; E. King, 260; W. J. Salmon, 258; M. H. Clear, 229; T. M. McGiff, 210.

Unsuccessful: R. Hibberd, 172; J. Maton, 170; F. W. Francis, 142; A. Gore, 131; T. S. Reeve, 112; Mrs. A. H. Allen, 72; W. H. Barton, 65; G. Marshnan, 53; D. Flemming, 50; H. C. Kille, 49; Miss E. E. M. Allen, 45; R. R. Pryne, 34; L. Guling, 21; T. Hussey, 13; G. T. Monson, 10; W. J. Spicer, 10; S. G. Tydeman, 9; W. H. Tyzack, 7; W. F. Kensett, 3.

SOUTH-WESTERN SECTION.

Elected: Rev. G. A. Ramsay, 145; Mrs. M. Found, 134; W. H. Watkins, 134; W. Brown, 129; J. T. Davis, 101; R. Pearee, 98.

Unsuccessful: G. S. Woods, 46; E. R. S. Mundy, 33; R. Andrews, 29; R. G. Naish, 25; W. J. Jose, 13; F. Ackland, 3.

WESTERN SECTION.

Elected: J. P. Davies, 83; D. Williams, 75; R. R. Chappell, 66; J. L. Powell, 59; W. H. Bryant, 50; D. Evans, 48.

Unsuccessful: W. I. Edwards, 46; M. Lewis, 41; C. J. Cole, 38; T. Andrews, 35; D. Evans (Ebbw Vale), 20; S. Jones, 19; J. Harrison, 18; G. H. Clement, 17; M. H. Perkins, 17; J. Davies, 16; T. R. Williams, 16; W. Hazell, 15; A. E. Price, 12; A. Smith, 6; D. Powell, 1.

I hereby certify that the above is a correct return of the voting for members of the Central Board of the Co-operative Union for the Congress Year 1919-20.

T. Wood, Scrutineer.

3rd June, 1919.

RESOLUTIONS.

It was announced that the following resolutions had been forwarded in accordance with the standing orders:—

Emergency resolution from the Joint Parliamentary Committee.

That this Congress strongly protests against the action of the Chancellor of the Exchequer in taking advantage of the present Budget to introduce the old bad principle of protection under the guise of Imperial Preference, and calls upon the Government to institute a full inquiry into our fiscal system, in order to secure the freest possible exchange of commodities in the interests of consumers the world over, and as a means of establishing an enduring peace.

Amended resolution from the Cambridge Society.

That this Congress approves the principle of the establishment by the movement of a national fund for the superannuation of its employees.

Emergency resolutions from the Central Board.

1. That in view of the probable shortage in the coal supplies of the country, and the consequent suffering to the poorest part of the community if such limited supplies are left to haphazard methods of distribution, this Congress calls upon the Government to at once take steps to provide that the distribution of coal during the coming winter shall be made to co-operative societies according to registration, and not upon the antiquated datum period.
2. (a) That the reports of the General Survey Committee be received ;
 (b) That the Central Board be instructed to arrange for the several reports to be discussed at specially convened sectional and district conferences to be held within a period of six months ;
 (c) That the Publications Committee be instructed to issue the reports in suitable form, and to prepare literature in pamphlet form explanatory of the proposals and recommendations made by the Survey Committee ; and
 (d) That a special Congress be held in February, 1920, for the purpose of (1) Adopting or otherwise the proposals and recommendations included in the reports of the General Survey Committee submitted to this and preceding Congresses, and resolutions of the district and sectional conferences and societies referred to above being circulated to societies along with the notice convening the special Congress ; and (2) Instructing the Central Board to prepare any necessary alterations of the rules of the Co-operative Union that may be necessary to make them harmonise with other amendments to rules to be submitted to the 1920 Congress.

From the Parkstone Society.

That this Congress believes the system of private ownership and exploitation of the country's resources in the coal mines has been proved to be unjust by the evidence already given before the Coal Commission, that it is injurious to the economic stability of the nation, and that it should be replaced by national ownership and control. It therefore urges co-operative societies to join in the demand for nationalisation and to communicate their wishes to the chairman of the Coal Commission.

From the Alloa society and other societies on behalf of the Scottish National Conference.

- (a) That the organising of the co-operative vote in every possible constituency in Scotland and the carrying forward of propaganda effort to promote this organisation be remitted to the Scottish Parliamentary Representation Committee and the ten district defence committees. Further, that this work be carried on in the closest harmony with the National Co-operative Representation Committee, reports being forwarded to it from time to time ;
- (b) That the selection of candidates be left in the hands of the local councils, along with the Scottish Parliamentary Representation Committee, subject to the veto of the National Co-operative Representation Committee ;
- (c) That a sum be allocated from the Central Fund to the Scottish Parliamentary Representation Committee to meet expenses.

The PRESIDENT announced that these resolutions would be posted up in the Enquiry Office for delegates to see.

The Congress then rose for the mid-day adjournment.

Report of the Central Board.

INTRODUCTORY.

Although the terms of the treaty that will end the war have not been published at the time of the preparation of this report, hostilities have ceased, and there is every reason to hope that peace will ere long be established in every land that war has devastated. As to the nature of that peace it would be idle to speculate. Darkness veils the discussions now taking place at the Versailles Conference, and it is not possible to tell whether the war will be ended by a new Treaty of Vienna or by the adoption of just and honest terms that will facilitate the formation of that League of Peoples upon which the hopes of all mankind depend. As co-operators, we shall welcome the creation of a true League of Nations; not only because its formation will testify to the triumph of the great principles of Justice, Freedom, and Democracy, but because we believe it will be the harbinger of international co-operation in the fullest and widest sense.

The period covered by this report has been one of the most memorable in the history of the Co-operative Union. The fact that it witnessed the cessation of hostilities alone would make it noteworthy; but the co-operative historian will record that the year in which the Armistice was signed was also the year that saw the return of the first direct co-operative representative to Parliament, the holding of the first National Joint Conference of Trade Unionists and Co-operators, and the resuscitation of the International Co-operative Alliance. These are historical events; and, as shown by the statements included in this report, the Union has, throughout the year, been actively engaged in new efforts to maintain the rights and promote the interests of the four million working-class consumers organised in the co-operative movement. In every department of national trade and industry the struggle between private interests and public interests has become more acute. The profiteering interests have grown more aggressive. Our trading competitors and commercial rivals have made new efforts to retard our progress. Party politicians alarmed by our entry into the realm of national politics have endeavoured to attack our societies in every way open to them. In addition, new and formidable obstacles to our development were created by the administration of the Military Service Acts, the activities of local Food Control Committees, the adoption of complicated schemes of registration and rationing, and the shortage of supplies which

made it impossible for societies to satisfy all the requirements of all their members. These circumstances are dealt with at length in the following pages, but it is a matter for genuine satisfaction that, notwithstanding these many difficulties, the movement has more than maintained its normal rate of progress.

Indeed, the period of the war has been a period of unprecedented progress for the co-operative movement. All the fears entertained by co-operators when hostilities commenced in August, 1914, have been falsified by the facts recorded in this report and the four preceding reports of the Central Board. What sound arguments could not achieve the circumstances of the war accomplished. Men and women unconvinced by our pre-war propaganda were converted to a saving faith in the soundness of our principles by their war-time experiences. The war once and for all time demonstrated the utter failure of competitive capitalism. The wastefulness and inefficiency of competitive trading, the shameless greed of private capitalists, the essential immorality of the profiteering system, were fully revealed. When all the facts are taken into account it is therefore not surprising that working men and women everywhere turned to the co-operative movement for help and protection. Since 1914 a million new members have been added to our total membership; our sales have been enormously increased; our capital resources have been greatly augmented; and we have made considerable progress in the direction of securing the co-operative control of raw materials and the first sources of supply.

All sections of the movement have made progress; and their progress will be continued as the case for co-operation is better understood by the public generally, who must be shown that the peaceful, orderly evolution of society is dependent upon the application of co-operative principles to all the problems now confronting us as a nation. Nevertheless, co-operators must not forget that the real testing-time for our societies is still to come. The cost of the war has yet to be met; the waste of war has still to be made good; and it is possible that industrial and social conditions will become worse before they grow better. It is therefore imperative that we should now do all in our power to strengthen the movement by co-ordinating our activities and consolidating our forces. Our societies must not only multiply their propagandist and educational activities; they must make themselves efficient to meet the economic needs of the new time by organising their trading and commercial activities on the most economical and progressive lines.

Special attention should therefore be given to the many important recommendations included in the reports presented to Congress by the General Survey Committee. In addition, all societies should adopt the suggestion made by the United Board and survey their own activities; review the possibilities of co-operative development in their own area; and consider what action is required to strengthen their finances, to extend

their trading operations, and to improve the services which they at present render to their members. Every society in membership with the Union would do well to survey its present position and its future prospects, in order that it may be prepared to take full advantage of every opportunity for development and fill a still larger place in the life of the community as a whole.

In the long run, the political power and social influence of Rochdale co-operation will be exactly proportionate to its strength and efficiency as an economic movement. It is in our societies that we must prove ourselves fit to administer public affairs and to shape our national destinies. The end must be kept in sight; but the means must not be neglected. Societies must therefore strive to become more and more efficient as traders, manufacturers, and farmers, at the same time redoubling their efforts to propagate the principles of co-operation and to instruct their members in order that all may understand the true purpose of the co-operative movement.

The success that has already rewarded our efforts to secure direct representation in Parliament and on local governing bodies is a sign that men and women are beginning to realise the larger implications of industrial co-operation. The closer relationship established between the co-operative movement and the trade-union movement proves that the organised workers are awakening to the possibilities of associated industry. It must be our aim to increase their knowledge and to deepen that growing sense of unity. This report indicates the strength and magnitude of the force now mustered beneath the banner of co-operation. In the work of social, industrial, and political reconstruction our duty as co-operators is clear. We must educate our members, organise our forces, and, by giving a still wider application to the principles to which we are pledged, ensure that human society shall be rebuilt on the unshakeable foundations of industrial co-operation and international goodwill.

1. INDUSTRIAL CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM IN 1917.

The following particulars relating to Industrial Co-operative Societies in the United Kingdom are taken from the Board of Trade *Labour Gazette*, and are based upon returns made direct to the Ministry of Labour, supplemented by information supplied by the Co-operative Union and the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

At the end of 1917 there were at work in the United Kingdom 1,465 industrial* co-operative societies, with an aggregate membership of 3,831,896; a total share, loan, and reserve capital of £81,770,273; a total trade (distributive and productive) of £272,746,849+; and a total profit—before deduction of interest on share capital—of £18,023,879.

Excepting for decreases in the number of societies—due mainly to amalgamation—and in the amount of profit, these figures show considerable growth

as compared with 1916, there being an increase in membership of 268,127, or 7.5 per cent; in capital of £3,832,537, or 4.9 per cent; and in trade of £35,221,714, or 14.8 per cent. The profit, on the other hand, showed a decrease of £934,509, or 4.9 per cent. As regards the increase in trade, it should be remembered that the higher level of prices has had an important bearing on the increased value of sales and transfers.

The total number of persons directly employed by the societies was 156,945,† and the total wages paid during the year amounted to £11,611,976,† compared with 154,622 employees and £10,391,245 in wages in 1916.

While some of the societies are engaged only in distribution and some only in production, others are engaged in both distributive and productive operations. In the following statistics, however, distribution and production are dealt with separately.

DISTRIBUTION.

At the end of 1917, 1,339 retail and two wholesale industrial societies were engaged in distribution. These societies had an aggregate membership of 3,790,448; a total share, loan, and reserve capital of £73,010,227‡; sales amounting to £216,951,643, and a profit on distribution—before deducting interest on share capital—of £17,114,849; while the total number of persons employed in distribution by the societies was 100,756, and the total wages paid £7,042,322.

In the following table the sales for each of the years 1907–1917 are shown separately for the retail and for the wholesale industrial societies:—

Year.	Retail Societies.		Wholesale Societies.	
	Number.	Sales.	Sales of English Society.	Sales of Scottish Society.
		£	£	£
1907	1,432	68,109,376	24,786,568	7,603,460
1908	1,418	69,785,798	24,902,842	7,531,126
1909	1,430	70,423,359	25,675,938	7,457,136
1910	1,421	71,861,383	26,567,833	7,738,159
1911	1,403	74,812,469	27,892,990	7,851,080
1912	1,392	78,878,658	29,732,154	8,391,258
1913	1,382	83,607,043	31,371,976	8,964,034
1914	1,385	87,979,898	34,910,813	9,425,384
1915	1,374	103,073,321	43,101,747	11,363,076
1916	1,364	121,853,932	52,230,074	14,499,037
1917	1,339	142,158,236	57,710,132	17,083,275

Of the total profit of £17,114,849, a sum of £15,922,596 was made by the retail societies, and £1,192,253 by the two wholesale societies. In the case of the retail societies the greater part of the profit was distributed to the members as a dividend on purchases at an average rate of 1s. 8½d. in the £ in England and Wales, 2s. 5¼d. in Scotland, and 1s. 1d. in Ireland, the average for the United Kingdom being 1s. 9¾d. Compared with 1916 these rates of dividend showed a decrease of 5½d. in England and Wales, 4¾d. in

Scotland, 2½d. in Ireland, and 5½d. for the United Kingdom. Non-members usually receive dividends at one-half these rates.

The English and Scottish wholesale societies paid to members a dividend on purchases of 3d. and 5½d. in the £ respectively. This was a decrease of 2d. in the case of the English Wholesale Society, and of 2½d. in the case of the Scottish Wholesale Society.

Profit Sharing with Employees.—Of the total 1,339 retail societies, 132, employing 15,255 persons and paying wages amounting to £1,096 565 in their distributive departments, allotted out of the profits a total of £43,425 to their employees as a bonus on wages; this being equal to 4 per cent.

PRODUCTION.

In 1917 there were 1,108 industrial co-operative societies of various types engaged in production, consisting of 985 retail and 2 wholesale distributive societies having productive departments, and of 121 associations for production only; these consisting of 4 corn-milling societies, 39 bread-making and other consumers' societies, and 78 associations of workers.

The total number of persons employed by these societies was 56,169, the amount of wages paid during the year was £4,567,288, and the value of productions £55,786,431. Of the 56,169 persons employed in production 43·3 per cent were men, 36·5 per cent women, and 20·2 per cent were young persons under 18 years of age.

In the following table the sales and transfers of each group of societies, together with the totals for all the societies, are shown for each of the years 1907-1917 :—

Sales and Transfers of Productions. §

Year.	Associations of Consumers.				Associa- tions of Workers.	Grand Total of all Societies.
	Productive Departments of Distributive Societies.		Productive Societies.			
	Retail Societies.	Wholesale Societies.	Corn- milling Societies.	Baking and other Consumers' Societies.		
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1907	3,277,974	8,102,980	954,733	762,949	1,319 117	19,417,753
1908	11,085,095	8,464,021	1,048,403	880,670	1,265,796	22,743,985
1909	12,044,137	8,993,922	1,111,563	906,823	1,246,879	24,293,324
1910	12,684,996	9,399,283	1,019,569	992,940	1,382,125	25,478,913
1911	12,731,608	9,615,748	1,024,331	1,020,801	1,440,337	25,832,845
1912	13,691,188	10,630,583	1,113,729	1,137,565	1,580,309	28,153,374
1913	14,550,246	11,211,882	1,003,579	1,270,579	1,732,337	29,768,623
1914	15,551,115	12,608,101	1,035,044	1,291,950	1,778,664	32,264,944
1915	19,123,888	17,350,906	304,616	1,508,872	2,399,930	40,687,712
1916	22,592,512	21,742,062	241,894	1,761,125	2,592,210	48,932,803
1917	25,062,446	25,220,294	310,991	1,938,854	3,253,846	55,786,431

The total value of productions increased between 1907 and 1913 by £10,350,870, or 53·3 per cent, the largest increases being shown by the productive departments of the retail societies (75·8 per cent), and by the baking and other consumers' societies (66·5 per cent). Since 1913 the value of the sales has been nearly doubled, but in considering this increase regard should be had to the general rise in prices which has taken place during the war. The decrease, since 1914, in the sales of the corn milling societies is due to the absorption of several of the mills by the English Wholesale Society.

The following table analyses, by groups of industries, the number of persons employed, the amount of wages paid, and the amount of sales and transfers of productions in 1917 :—

Groups of Industries.	Associations of Consumers.			Associations of Workers.		
	No. of Em- ployés.	Wages paid during 1917.	Sales and Transfers of Produc- tions.	No. of Em- ployés.	Wages paid during 1917.	Sales and Transfers of Produc- tions.
		£	£		£	£
Food and Tobacco..	15,435	1,535,310	42,864,120	167	15,010	192,816
Clothing	21,233	1,455,994	4,620,108	4,036	289,595	1,621,474
Soap, Candles, and Starch.....	1,701	135,578	2,122,604	..	..	..
Textiles	2,641	157,237	1,029,119	1,623	129,672	971,269
Building, Quarrying and Woodworki'g	2,940	356,533	778,888	144	17,021	53,779
Printing	1,853	143,791	543,422	941	87,453	312,486
Metal, Engineering, and Shipbuilding	563	59,560	214,144	391	32,428	86,159
Other Industries ..	2,453	147,427	360,180	48	4,679	15,863
Totals 1917 ..	48,819	3,991,430	52,532,585	7,350	575,858	3,253,846
Totals 1916 ..	50,498	3,771,286	46,340,593	7,625	518,942	2,592,210
Percentage, In- crease (+), or Decrease (—)	— 3·3	+ 5·8	+ 13·4	— 3·6	+ 11·0	+ 25·5

A total profit of £908,887 was made upon industrial production by societies other than retail societies, the profits of the latter being merged in the general profit, and therefore not separately ascertainable.

Of this total £516,617 was made by the wholesale societies, £3,882 by the corn-milling societies, £149,274 by bread-making and other consumers' societies, and £239,114 by the associations of workers.

Profit Sharing with Employees.—Of the 1,108 societies engaged in industrial production, 126, employing 10,432 persons in production, with wages amounting to £823,689, allotted a sum of £51,110 to these employees as a bonus on wages, this being equal to 6·2 per cent. Of the total amount £10,162 was allotted by 81 retail distributive societies, £7,533 by 3 consumers' productive societies, and £33,415 by 42 associations of workers.†

Associations of Workers: Share of Employees in Membership, Capital, and Management.—Sixty-nine of the 78 associations of workers for production, with sales amounting to £3,227,210, or 99·2 per cent of the total sales of the associations at work in 1917, made returns showing the extent to which their employees and others shared in the membership, capital, and management of the associations. The returns showed that the total membership of the 69 associations was 25,279, of whom 4,819, or 19·1 per cent, consisted of employees; 15,884, or 62·8 per cent, of other individuals; and 4,576, or 18·1 per cent, of other societies. Of the 7,254 persons employed by the associations, 4,819, or 66·4 per cent, were members of the associations employing them.

Of the £889,839 share and loan capital, £157,124, or 17·7 per cent, belonged to employees; £340,505, or 38·3 per cent, to other individual members; and £321,597, or 36·1 per cent, to other societies. The remaining £70,613, or 7·9 per cent, consisted of loans from non-members, including bank overdrafts.

The total number of directors or committee-men of the associations was 660, of whom 274, or 41·5 per cent, were employees of the associations; 255, or 38·6 per cent, were other individual members; and 131, or 19·9 per cent, were representative of other shareholding societies.

OTHER SOCIETIES.

In addition to the above societies there were also at work in 1917 three societies, viz. :—A co-operative cab society in England, and two co-operative motor societies in Ireland, with an aggregate membership of 40, a capital of £2,993, trade amounting to £8,775 and a profit of £143.

* *i.e.*, excluding agricultural societies, credit banks, &c.

† These figures are exclusive of the number and wages of persons employed in agriculture by industrial societies, and of the sales and transfers of agricultural produce by these societies.

‡ These figures include the capital used in the productive departments of retail societies, and the profit upon the productions of these societies, the amounts of these items not being available separately. The capital used in the productive departments of the wholesale societies, £6,110,198, and the profit, £516,617, are not included.

§ In the case of the retail and wholesale societies the productions are usually transferred from the productive to the distributive departments, for sale by the latter.

|| Twenty-six of these societies and five additional societies (four in England and one in Scotland) allotted in addition £6,513 to Provident Funds for the benefit of their employees.

2. GENERAL PROGRESS OF THE MOVEMENT.

We regret that it has not been possible to obtain in time for Congress the usual statistical information. The particulars asked for from the societies are in similar form to the annual return supplied to the Registrar, and as the societies are allowed until 31st March to send in such return they do not, in many cases, supply us with particulars until later. This, of course, prevents the compilation of such a mass of statistics being completed in the short time at our disposal.

We feel that officials of societies might, if they would, give this matter their

attention, which would assist us materially; and we hope that as the old members of the clerical staffs of societies return to duty this important part of the work will be promptly dealt with.

From the returns which have come to hand, we are of opinion that the movement generally will show a considerable increase. One most gratifying feature is that so many societies are taking up farming. This is a work which should be encouraged whenever possible.

The totals of the figures given below are for 1918, and compared with those for 1917.

Year.	Total Number of Societies.	Number of Societies to which these Figures Relate.	Number of Members.	Shares. £	Trade. £	Surplus. £	Employees. Dis- tributive.	Produc- tive.
1917	1,478	1,448	3,835,376	53,478,456	224,918,795	18,194,600	101,099	61,404
1918	1,474	1,450	3,894,999	59,474,778	248,979,685	17,702,567	101,982	62,401
Increase.	—	2	59,623	5,996,322	24,065,890	—	883	997
Decrease	4	—	—	—	—	492,033	—	—

ANALYSIS OF GENERAL RESULTS.

		Societies.	Members.	Shares. £	Trade. £	Surplus. £
Wholesale Societies	1917 ..	3 ..	1,908 ..	3,595,589 ..	75,441,542 ..	1,821,646
"	1918 ..	3 ..	1,972 ..	3,842,899 ..	85,601,687 ..	716,058
Retail Societies	1917 ..	1,366 ..	3,788,490 ..	49,384,049 ..	142,003,612 ..	15,916,591
"	1918 ..	1,364 ..	3,846,531 ..	54,039,225 ..	155,157,963 ..	16,495,645
Productive Societies	1917 ..	97 ..	36,358 ..	899,485 ..	5,146,459 ..	359,740
"	1918 ..	95 ..	37,393 ..	1,181,906 ..	5,714,041 ..	398,602
Supply Associations	1917 ..	3 ..	8,282 ..	358,492 ..	1,712,718 ..	58,602
"	1918 ..	3 ..	8,349 ..	358,497 ..	1,768,450 ..	58,122
Special Societies	1917 ..	4 ..	278 ..	21,617 ..	480,334 ..	29,388
"	1918 ..	4 ..	693 ..	20,790 ..	620,947 ..	26,503

3. WHOLESALE SOCIETIES.

(a) English Co-operative Wholesale Society Limited.

In the two previous years we have indicated the progressive spirit of the C.W.S. in the extension of such essentials as farms, fields, factories, and workshops. In view of the desire to lessen the number of pages of this volume, we have not on this occasion the space to present the usual details of advancement in connection with the manifold activities of this growing trading organisation.

During the war the co-operative resources for the supply of materials to retail stores have been considerably widened, and include a variety of works and land in this country and as far away as West Africa. The past year (1918) has been no exception to the rule of increasing enterprise in respect to

the trade and industrial construction of the movement. The acquisitions of the year include an addition to the joint tea-growing areas in Ceylon, also land and buildings on the Gold Coast of Africa. At home, or within England and Wales, many important purchases were effected. On the manufacturing side the works that have been brought within C.W.S. ownership and control include Hull flour mills and preserve works, tannery at Grappenhall, near Warrington, fustian factory at Hebden Bridge (taken over from the Co-operative Fustian Manufacturing Society Limited), and a glass works at Pendleton. Land and buildings for extension of existing works were bought in many parts of the kingdom in connection with the manufacture of flour, clothing, jam, milk, and other articles for the home. The main additions made to co-operative agricultural possessions consisted of the Warburton village and estate in Cheshire, the Adlingfleet Estate, Yorkshire, and the Down Ampney estate in Gloucestershire. These embraced 9 844 acres. Other farm and field purchases that were completed during the year were estates at Stoughton (Leicester), 5,586 acres; Compton Bassett (Wiltshire), 4,616 acres; Hetton and Holborn (Northumberland), 3,424 acres. Smaller areas of farm land were also secured, making the total acres of land, studded with farms, now under control of the C.W.S. into 32,559, purchased at a cost of over £1,200,000, all devoted to agricultural produce.

The continued progress of the C.W.S. is also shown in regard to membership shares, and sales. This may be illustrated by the following series of figures:—

	£5 Shares taken up.	Members belonging to Shareholders.		£5 Shares taken up.	Members belonging to Shareholders.
1864....	—	18,337	1914....	432,049	2,336,460
1874....	13,899	168,985	1915....	469,869	2,535,972
1884....	45,099	459,734	1916....	556,098	2,653,227
1894....	127,211	910,104	1917....	616,048	2,748,277
1904....	257,424	1,594,145	1918....	653,504	2,854,584

Hence the gradual increase in strength. Historical progress may be indicated in a brief statistical form by figures in reference to capital. They are as under:—

	Shares. £	Loans, Deposits, and Thrift Fund. £	Trade and Bank Reserves. £	Insurance Fund. £	Reserve Balances. £	Total. £
1864..	2,455	—	—	—	—	2,455
1874 .	48,126	147,949	1,613	2,356	—	200,044
1884..	207,080	494,840	25,126	24,324	9,988	761,358
1894..	598,496	972,586	37,556	259,976	22,488	1,891,102
1904..	1,196,703	1,890,352	313,418	516,969	11,730	3,929,176
1914 .	2,180,959	5,743,583	903,355	1,004,954	119,593	9,902,447
1918..	3,195,737	12,521,834	665,797	1,557,158	742,593	18,683,169

Other tables might have been compiled, indicating the stages of growth from the commencement of the operations of the society. The trade of the Co-operative Wholesale Society has increased in value enormously. The total sales to societies, which were £21,902,842 ten years ago, and £12,574,748 in 1898 reached last year to the sum of £65,167,960, which included goods from Co-operative Wholesale productive works amounting to £17,596,432. The last-named

figure represented a decrease, compared to the previous year, of £1,044,234, due to the severe effects of the war arising from trade restrictions, control and shortage of labour. It is anticipated that an upward tendency in production will be restored with the re-establishment of normal industrial conditions.

As a matter of fact, the future may be faced by the members with the expectation of greater developments. Expansion in several directions is (at the time of writing) under consideration, particularly in such every-day requirements as milk, bread, and clothing. There are signs that competition from multiple concerns, and other forms of vested interests, will be keener, and perhaps more powerful. This makes it all the more necessary that the solid foundation of production for use should be extended in all possible directions.

There is not space to refer to all the new features of the year, embracing the attitude of the Co-operative Wholesale Society towards unity between the co-operative and trade union movements, particularly in respect to banking and financial affairs, and also for production. The paramount importance of larger capital has been brought to the front. The above figures prove that capital in all its forms has been growing from year to year, but perhaps the most outstanding effort of the past year has been the issuing of Development Bonds at 5½ per cent interest. This has given opportunities to societies, trade unions, and members and employees of societies to enlarge the necessary financial foundation of the co-operative commonwealth for production and to fortify it against the concentration of vested interests. Many societies, desiring to share in this commendable scheme for raising the capitalistic resources of the Co-operative Wholesale Society, increased their ordinary shares, according to rule, to permit them to become holders of the new bonds. The future invites courage and enterprise in co-operative trade and commercial possibilities.

(b) Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society Limited.

The Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society Limited was registered in April of 1868 and commenced business on 8th September of the same year, thus attaining its jubilee in September of 1918. This event would have been celebrated at that date, but jubilee celebrations were postponed on account of the great war which was then raging, but now that the war has ceased and the prospects of a permanent peace are in sight the directors received power from the last general meeting, and jubilee celebrations will be held during the summer of 1919.

Distribution.—The business when started was engaged solely in distribution of grocery goods to the societies in the federation, but, latterly, drapery, boots, and shoes were added.

The first quarter's trade from 8th September to 7th December, 1868, amounted to £9,697, and for the first complete year—that of the year 1869—the turnover was £81,094. The sales of the society during the 50 years of its existence have year by year shown increases with three exceptions: that of the years 1894, 1908, and 1909, which were exceptional years, the decreases being respectively for these years 2·5 per cent, 0·9 per cent, and 0·9 per cent, as compared

with the immediately preceding years. The trade for the 50th year, *i.e.*, 1918, amounted to £19,216,762; the increase in this last year (1918) over the preceding year of 1917 being 12½ per cent.

During last year the work of the society has been carried on successfully and with a minimum of friction in spite of the difficulties surrounding both the manufacturing and distributing sections by the controls and restrictions in various directions occasioned by the war.

Production.—The value of goods produced during the year 1918 amounted to £5,644,129, in the purely productive departments, not including transfers made from the service departments. There are 45 factories in operation, and these are being added to from time to time. The manufacturing departments of the society were started in 1881, when the first factory, that of shirt making, was established. The turnover for the productive departments for the year 1883 amounted to £4,094. This, as compared with the turnover given above—£5,644,129—indicates the progress that has already been made in entering upon the field of production.

With the close of the war attention can now be turned and efforts made in various directions for the expansion of the productive side of the movement, immediate attention being directed to the extension in agriculture. During the last year four creameries have been acquired in the South of Scotland—a joint purchase with the Co-operative Wholesale Society, and one at East Kilbride by the society. With the loyalty of the retail societies there is little doubt that the efforts in this direction will ultimately be crowned with success.

Buying Depots.—In addition to manufacturing establishments, buying depots have been inaugurated both direct and in co-operation with the Co-operative Wholesale Society; the activities of the buying depot in Winnipeg have been restricted by the action of the Wheat Commission. Previous to the outbreak of war wheat was sent from our buying depot in Winnipeg direct from the farmers to our mills. This cannot be done under present circumstances, and the activities of this department have been confined to buying the wheat as allotted to the depot by the Government. It is to be hoped that restrictions will be removed and that return will be made to our old methods, which were capable of great expansion and would result in benefit to our flour mills.

Capital.—The share capital of the Society is raised in shares of £1. Societies are required to take one share for each individual member. At December, 1918, the number of shares held by societies was 598,883, of which £597,460 was paid up. Shares can also be held by employees. Any employee over 21 years of age is entitled to take shares up to a maximum of 50, on which interest at the rate of 5 per cent is allowed. In 1918 the number of employees who took advantage of this was 675, holding 25,791 shares, of which £23,725 is paid up.

Deposits are also accepted from societies, and likewise from employees and members of retail co-operative societies. The rates of interest are from 3 to 4½ per cent, the lower rate being paid on deposits at call or short notice, the higher rates for deposits placed at six months' notice of withdrawal. The total capital

at 1869 amounted to £5,174. At December, 1918, the total capital, including insurance and reserve funds, amounted to £5,773,569.

Reserves and Depreciation.—Land, buildings, plant and machinery owned by the Society have been and are being regularly depreciated. To 1918 the total amount expended on these was £2,313,471, and the value as taken into the assets of the Society £747,417; while reserves at same date, including insurance and undivided balance, amounted to £1,231,163.

The depreciation on the buildings and these reserve funds indicate the strong financial position of the Society.

(c) Irish Agricultural Wholesale Society Limited.

The Irish Agricultural Wholesale Society Limited, was registered in 1897 and commenced business at the beginning of 1898. It has, therefore, just completed its twenty-first year.

In its earlier years the business of the society was confined to such agricultural requisites as seeds, fertilisers, &c, but gradually the scope of its activities was widened to include all farming requirements. The marketing of agricultural produce was also undertaken.

Since 1910, when the grocery department was established, the town distributive societies as well as the rural general stores have been catered for. Both the urban and rural societies now belong to one trading federation. In 1910 the banking business was also undertaken. This was done to counter a move made to smash some rural societies by the withdrawal of banking facilities. The banking department is making very good progress.

Sales.—The sales for 1897, the first year of the society's existence, amounted to £14,500. The sales for 1917 amounted to £651,566, and in 1918 the sales had increased to £914,242. During the war period the sales of the society increased from £268,384 in 1914 to £914,242 in 1918.

Capital.—The capital of the society is presently obtained by two classes of shares, ordinary and preference. The ordinary shares may be held by societies only, and are nominally valued at £1 each. At least 1s. per share must be paid up, and at least one share must be subscribed for every member on a federated society's register. Preference shares, which may be held by individuals, are nominally valued at £5 each, which must be fully paid up. Not less than 10 shares can be allotted initially to any applicant. Both types of shareholders are represented on the directorate, but the rules are arranged so as to keep the control in the hands of the ordinary shareholders. When sufficient ordinary capital is available the rules provide for the redemption of the preference shares. The number of preference shares that may be issued is limited by rule. The capital of the society at the end of 1918 was as follows:—

Paid up on ordinary shares	£14,460
„ preference „	11,515
Total	<u>£25,975</u>

Reserves and Depreciation.—Throughout the entire period of the society's existence special attention has been paid to adequate depreciation of plant and machinery, &c. The reserve fund has also been attended to. At the end of 1918 the entire premises of the society were written off from reserve fund which was thereby reduced to £2,500. At the end of 1918 the reserve had again been increased to £5,000.

Prospects.—The future prospects of the I.A.W.S. must be considered as very good. The movement in Ireland is growing rapidly in extent and variety of function, and the Wholesale will necessarily take part in expansion. At present the demand for new societies is very great indeed in both town and country, so that the year 1919 may well be a record one for the Irish movement.

The following figures will illustrate the years 1917 and 1918 :—

	Society Members.	Prof. Members.	Paid on Ord. Shares.	Paid on Prof. Shares.	Loans.	Sales.
1917	334	122	£11,175	£10,075	£61,971	£651,566
1918	379	132	14,460	11,515	90,486	914,242
Increase..	45	10	£3,285	£1,440	£28,515	£262,676

	Interest on Share Capital.	Surplus.	No. of Ordinary Shares.	No. of Prof. Shares.
1917	£1,060	£5,576	48,836	2,015
1918	1,300	7,527	57,558	2,323
Increase	£240	£1,951	8,722	308

SUMMARY OF THE WHOLESALE SOCIETIES.

	Society Members.	Shares.	Loans.	Sales.	Interest on Capital.	Surplus.
1917.		£	£	£	£	£
The English Wholesale	1,192	2,981,133	3,956,192	57,710,133	143,708	1,815,155
The Scottish Wholesale	263	593,239	3,664,578	*17,079,842	28,617	500,915
The Irish Wholesale	453	21,216	61,971	651,566	1,060	5,576
	1,908	3,595,588	7,682,741	75,441,541	173,380	1,821,646
1918.		£	£	£	£	£
The English Wholesale	1,300	3,195,737	8,701,204	65,167,960	154,981	160,538
The Scottish Wholesale	261	621,187	3,925,109	*19,221,086	30,443	547,993
The Irish Wholesale	511	25,975	90,486	914,242	1,300	7,527
	1,972	3,842,899	12,716,799	85,303,288	186,674	716,058
1917.....	1,908	3,595,588	7,682,741	75,441,541	173,380	1,821,646
1918.....	1,972	3,842,899	12,716,799	85,303,288	186,674	716,058
Increase ..	64	247,311	5,034,058	9,861,747	13,294	—
Decrease ..	—	—	—	—	—	1,105,588

* This amount only includes sales to members and non-members in Great Britain, and is exclusive of a sum of £235,989 for 1917 and £298,399 for 1918 due by the Flour Mills Control Committee for Flour Subsidy.

4. DISTRIBUTIVE CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES.

	Societies.	Mem- bers.	Shares. £	Loans. £	Sales. £	Surplus. £	Employees. Dis-tributive.	Productive.
1917	1,366..	3,788,490..	49,384,049..	6,362,444..	142,003,612..	15,916,591..	92,719..	26,023
1918	1,364..	3,846,531..	54,039,225..	7,355,483..	155,157,963..	16,495,645..	92,535..	26,094
Increase. — ..		58,041..	4,655,176..	993,039..	13,154,351..	579,054..	816..	71
Decrease 2..	— ..	— ..	— ..	— ..	— ..	— ..	— ..	—

5. CO-OPERATIVE PRODUCTION.

The usual information from the productive societies in regard to their progress, also from the wholesale societies as to their productive departments, was not completed at the time of writing this report, but was inserted in the report after Congress. We submit a summary of the returns for 1917 and 1918:—

(a) SUMMARISED STATEMENT.

	Number of Societies.	Number of Emp'ys.	Capital Employed.	Trade during Year.	Surplus.	Defi- ciency.
			£	£	£	£
Ireland .....1917	..	..	..	..	..	..
"1918	..	..	..	..	..	..
England and Wales .....1917	83	7167	985268	3199173	218843	1497
"1918	81	7068	1076292	3799354	258672	806
Scotland .....1917	14	1997	819686	1947286	145897	286
"1918	14	1912	898187	1974687	139624	..
English Wholesale .....1917	1	19082	4907873	18581555	418653	1266
"1918	1	16047	6449306	17729568	253981	33573
Scottish Wholesale .....1917	1	6977	1328712	6294857	123117	..
" "1918	1	6849	1231531	5942528	198599	2218
Total .....1917	99	35223	8041539	30022871	901510	3049
"1918	97	31876	9655316	29386137	790876	36097

(b) SUMMARY OF INDUSTRIES.

	1917.	1918.
	£	£
Cotton, Linen, Silk and Wool { England	1,102,408 ..	1,269,318
{ Scotland	285,054 ..	389,579
{ Wholesale Societies	1,714,457 ..	2,445,174
	<u>3,101,919 ..</u>	<u>4,104,071</u>

		1917. £	1918. £
Boots, Shoes, and Leather ..	{ England	953,498 ..	1,123,351
	{ Wholesale Societies	1,444,677 ..	1,523,824
		2,398,175 ..	2,647,175
Metal and Hardware	{ England	68,971 ..	87,451
	{ Wholesale Society	82,359 ..	71,400
		151,330 ..	158,851
Woodworking	{ England	47,624 ..	51,502
	{ Wholesale Societies	205,193 ..	252,230
		252,817 ..	303,732
Building and Quarrying	England	7,167 ..	5,121
Printing and Bookbinding ..	{ England	287,821 ..	428,639
	{ Scotland	23,496 ..	28,525
	{ Wholesale Societies	494,570 ..	561,027
		805,887 ..	1,018,191
Corn Milling	{ England	247,452 ..	266,189
	{ Wholesale Societies	13,511,698 ..	9,644,461
		13,759,150 ..	9,910,650
Baking	{ England	104,478 ..	103,144
	{ Scotland	1,615,187 ..	1,531,645
		1,719,665 ..	1,634,789
Laundries	{ England	96,934 ..	105,048
	{ Scotland	23,549 ..	24,938
		120,483 ..	129,986
Various	{ England	282,820 ..	299,591
	{ Wholesale Societies	7,423,458 ..	9,173,980
		7,706,278 ..	9,473,571
Total, 1917			30,022,871
„ 1918			29,386,137
Decrease			815,474

6. FARMING BY CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES.

(See Appendix I., page 256.)

(a) FARMING BY WHOLESALE OR DISTRIBUTIVE SOCIETIES.

Section.	ACREAGE.		Capital.	Rent.		Surplus	Deficiency.	Number of Societies.
	Owued.	Rented.		Interest	Rent where rented.			
			£	£	£	£	£	
Irish	178	..	10992	201	..	..	1591	1
Midland	9383½	3654½	329668	10481	7795	16193	2082	33
Northern	644	1954	54048	1955	3259	6033	12	18
North-Western..	10173	1614	458474	14558	3185	1891	11263	42
Scottish	5679½	768	133893	5480	3616	14725	332	9
Southern	1890	451	47607	2298	677	1990	64	10
South-Western..	3220½	500½	78591	3929	1414	878	3119	5
Western	47	243	350	17	118	58	53	5
Total....	31215½	9185	1119643	38919	20064	41768	18516	123

(b) FARMING SOCIETIES.

Section.	ACREAGE.		Capital.	Rent.		Surplus	Deficiency.	Number of Societies.
	Owued.	Rented.		Interest	Rent where rented.			
			£	£	£	£	£	
Southern	233	1784	58	140	359	..	1
Western	574	3000	1	403	950	..	1
Total....	..	807	4784	59	543	1309	..	2

7. SMALL SAVINGS OR PENNY BANKS.

The following particulars relating to the Small Savings Departments have been abstracted from the annual returns supplied by societies. We give the returns for 1917 also.

Section.	No. of Societies. 1917.	No. of Societies. 1918.	Amount of Deposits. 1917. £	Amount of Deposit. 1918. £
Ireland	4	7	323	3,936
Midland	109	119	463,239	553,488
Northern	73	77	170,851	203,450
North-Western	264	272	1,095,765	1,267,013
Scottish.....	108	114	361,091	505,242
Southern	128	128	344,118	410,492
South-Western	46	50	91,623	110,079
Western	50	57	117,272	158,766
	782	824	£2,644,282	£3,212,466

8. CO-OPERATIVE INSURANCE.

The following is a comparison of the business of the Co-operative Insurance Society Limited—the Joint Insurance Department of the Co-operative Wholesale Society Limited, and the Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society Limited—for the years 1916 and 1917, and a statement of its financial position at 31st December, 1918.

The expense of Collective Life Assurance, with the new scale of benefits now in force, is only 3 per cent of the premiums:—

COLLECTIVE LIFE ASSURANCE BUSINESS.

Year.	No. of Societies Assured.	Premiums Received. £	No. of Members of Assured Societies.	Claims Paid.	
				No.	Amount. £
1916	581	179,700	1,380,139	23,843	147,165
1917	616	226,223	1,578,074	27,746	179,127
1918	710	283,383	1,952,556	35,414	246,232

LIFE ASSURANCE BUSINESS (INDIVIDUALS).

Year.	ORDINARY.			SPECIAL.			INDUSTRIAL.		
	Premiums Received. £	Claims Paid.		Premiums Received. £	Claims Paid.		Premiums Received. £	Claims Paid.	
		No.	Amount. £		No.	Amount. £		No.	Amount. £
1916	45,662	102	16,587	20,604	661	7,473	6,560	297	2,967
1917	56,412	274	22,904	23,873	795	8,729	8,212	369	3,593
1918	88,011	327	29,188	27,702	1016	11,472	20,944	1118	11,678

In 1918, £733. 13s. 10d. was received for Annuities granted

FIRE, AND ACCIDENT AND GENERAL INSURANCE BUSINESS.

Year.	FIRE.			ACCIDENT AND GENERAL.		
	Premiums Received. †	Claims Paid.		Premiums Received. †	Claims Paid.	
		No.	Amount.		No.	Amount.
	£		£	£		£
1916	65,945	1,800	15,022	25,561	1,845	10,245
1917	73,636	2,025	26,494	29,737	1,696	12,798
1918	81,605	2,119	38,422	34,536	1,721	12,369

† Accident, Burglary, Fidelity, Plate Glass, Motor Vehicle and Live Stock Insurances are included in the Accident and General Account.

EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY INSURANCE BUSINESS.

Year.	Premiums Received.	Claims Paid.			
		Fatal.	Non-Fatal.	No.	Amount.
	£				£
1916	34,111	21	2,319	2,340	16,085
1917	36,642	22	2,159	2,181	17,429
1918	50,842	24	1,917	1,941	18,273

In 1918 the total premium income in all departments amounted to £587,023, an increase of £130,719, or 28½ per cent over the year 1917.

The claims paid were 43,698 in number, amounting to a total of £367,634.

INSURANCE FUNDS.

Year.	Life (Four Sections).	Fire.	Employers' Liability.	Accident and General.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£
1916	372,853	197,894	53,356	40,025	664,128
1917	436,767	209,911	59,331	46,430	752,439
1918	495,653	219,482	73,025	56,255	844,415

Out of the profit and loss account, after paying interest on capital at the usual rate of 5 per cent, dividends of 2s. in the £ to members and 1s. in the £ to non-members upon their fire insurance premiums in 1917 were declared.

9. JOURNALS OF THE MOVEMENT.

We have not made application to societies generally for particulars of the journals and records published by them, but only for particulars relating to those named below :—

WEEKLY AND MONTHLY PAPERS AND JOURNALS.

	No. of Societies Supplied.	Circulation.
*" Co-operative Union Review "	—	6,000
*" Co-operative Educator "	—	6,000
" Co-operative News "	952	100,000
" Millgate Monthly "	590	15,000
" Our Circle "	207	24,000
" Scottish Co-operator "	218	25,000
" Co-partnership "	—	8,000
† " Co-operation in Agriculture "	—	—
" A.U.C.E. Journal "	728	12,000
‡ " Wheatsheaf "	515	500,000
" Producer "	755	24,600
The People's Year Book	—	21,500

* Issued quarterly. † Suspended during the war.

‡ In addition, 515 societies publish "Wheatsheaf" local pages, aggregating 1,000 pp. monthly, and an Agricultural Edition is supplied to 30 societies, taking 4,000 copies.

10. NEW SOCIETIES REGISTERED IN 1918.

(See Appendix II., page 260.)

We have obtained from the Registrar of Friendly Societies and the Assistant Registrars for Scotland and Ireland a list of societies registered in 1918. The list is printed in full in the appendix.

The total number for England and Wales is 384, as compared with 302 registered during 1917. It will be noticed from the classification that the societies are very varied in their character, which shows that registration under this Act is still very popular. The following summary gives the classification :

(a) ENGLAND AND WALES.

Distributive	10
Productive	4
Small Holdings and Allotments.....	212
Agricultural, Dairy, and Milk Supply	14
Farmers' and Farm Implement	20
Pig, Poultry, and Live Stock.....	44
Fruit and Vegetable	15
Clubs	34
Fishermens'	4
Unclassified	27

384

The distributive societies are as follows :—Co-operative Stores, Sturminster; Newton; Compton District; Portmadoc and District; New Barn and District; Llanharan and District; Llantwit Vardre; Pentwynmawr; Murcot; Crynant and District; and Ceres Co-operative.

(b) SCOTLAND.

Eighty-two societies have been registered in Scotland during 1918, as against 68 in 1917. The two distributive societies are Bute Co-operative and Lochaber and District.

These societies are classified as follows:—

Distributive	2
Agricultural and Dairy	73
Credit	1
Small Holdings and Allotments	1
Women's Trading	2
Fruit and Vegetable	1
Unclassified	2
	<hr/> 82

(c) IRELAND

Sixty-four new societies have been registered in Ireland during 1918, whilst 77 were registered during 1917:—

These societies are classified as follows:—

Distributive	2
Agricultural and Dairy	29
Creameries	8
Milling	7
Small Holdings and Allotments	1
Credit	1
Flax	8
Unclassified	8
	<hr/> 64

The distributive societies are Finisk and Limerick City.

11. SOCIETIES DISSOLVED OR AMALGAMATED IN 1918.

(See Appendix III., page 283.)

During 1918, 70 societies were removed from the register. It will be noted on a perusal of the list contained in the appendix that a number of these are "final notices of winding-up" and may have appeared in previous lists as being in course of liquidation. Of the 14 distributive societies that have ceased to exist, 9 have amalgamated or transferred their engagements to other societies

Distributive	14
Productive	3
Agricultural and Farmers'	18
Creameries	1
Small Holdings and Allotments	7
Land and Building	3
Egg and Poultry	5
Clubs	4
Unclassified	15
	<hr/> 70

THE CO-OPERATIVE UNION LIMITED.

12. SOCIETIES AFFILIATED TO THE UNION during 1918.

The following is a list of societies which have joined the Union since the last Congress :—

Ireland : Finisk.

Midland Section : Whetstone.

North-Western Section : Bromboro' Pool, and Rochdale Laundries.

Scottish Section : Invergordon.

Southern Section : Kingshill, Kingston and District, and South Suburban.

South-Western Section : Shepton Mallet.

West China : Szechwan.

13. SOCIETIES WHICH HAVE WITHDRAWN during 1918.

The undermentioned societies have ceased to be members of the Union for the reasons stated :—

By amalgamation or transfer of engagements — *Bromley and Crays,
*Croydon, Garden City Press, Hebden Bridge Fustian Manufacturing,
*Penge and Beckenham, Penyfford, Warwick, and West Haddon.

By ceasing to exist—Andrews Co-operative Watch Manufacturing, Coventry.
Co-operative Watch Manufacturing, and Leavenseat.

By being struck off—Coventry Builders.

* Amalgamated and registered as the South Suburban Co-operative Society.

14. SUMMARY OF MEMBERS.

Section.	Total No. of Societies.	Members of Union.	Non-members of Union.	Per cent Members of Union.
Ireland	49	34	15	69·39
Midland	207	181	26	87·44
Northern	139	136	3	97·84
North-Western ..	451	416	35	92·24
Scottish	276	226	50	81·88
Southern	185	164	21	88·65
South - Western..	78	69	9	88·46
Western	89	81	8	91·01
	1,474	1,307	167	88·67

† Societies members of the Union in 1919..... 1,307

† Societies members of the Union in 1918..... 1,305

SUMMARY OF MEMBERSHIP.

	Number of Societies.		Per cent.		Membership of Societies.		Per cent.
†Members of Union	1,307	....	88.67	....	3,814,437	....	97.98
†Non-members of Union	167	....	11.33	....	80,562	....	2.07

Total No. of Societies 1,474 Total Membership 3,894,999

† These figures refer only to Societies included in the Statistical Return.

15. THE CENTRAL BOARD.

The Central Board, which is composed of the whole of the members of the various sectional boards, has met on two occasions since last Congress. The first meeting was held in the Lecture Hall, Holyoake House, Manchester, on Friday and Saturday, 23rd and 24th August, 1918, when Alderman F. Hayward was appointed chairman for the year.

The following matters in addition to items appertaining to ordinary routine business were considered:

In the course of an exhaustive review of the expenditure of the Union, which formed one of the chief items of business of this meeting, it was pointed out that this had more than kept pace with the increased income, so much so that, but for the fact that the Union had certain funds which brought in interest amounting to £966, the Union would have had to face a deficit of £600 last year—the actual difference between the amount received and the amount expended.

The funds of the Union were expended partly through the sections and partly through the Central Office, but despite the fact that a considerable increase in membership was shown, and that, on the other hand, the work of the sections had been impeded and decreased by the war, the increased expenditure was out of proportion to the increase in membership in the various sections. The expenditure of the Central Office had increased between 1914 and 1917 from £9,478 to £12,760, or 34.6 per cent, under which heading were included the Education Committee, the Joint Parliamentary Committee, war bonuses, and the increased allowances to the staff. Allowing for £500 of an increase in income owing to increased membership, and assuming that the expenditure for the next half year would be equivalent to the expenditure of the first half, there would be a deficit of £1,200, without taking into account what the Union was committed to spending on political activities, which would have to be added to the £1,200 deficit. In the light of these facts it was thought the Central Board should be made aware of the position, and before societies were asked to increase the amount of their contributions the Board should be able to justify the present expenditure of so considerable an income. Referring to the suggestions put forward, the chairman (Mr. F. Hayward) stated it was necessary that there should be a strong Finance

Committee, to whom the various sections and committees should budget for their requirements, and that it should be the duty of this committee to investigate the expenditure incurred and make representations to the United Board with respect to it. As matters stood, representatives were appointed to the Education and Parliamentary Committees with no responsibility for keeping their expenditure within their ability to pay. If this responsibility were put upon them, and their extra expenditure could be justified before the societies, then they could say they could not go on with the present rate of subscriptions, and then an increase would be necessary. Co-ordination, the speaker continued, was needed in the way expenditure was incurred; some sections were spending money in directions in which others did not spend any. The Union was worth financing with the money necessary for its efficient management and for the development of its work. If it could show that the money it had received had been wisely and economically spent, and for the objects for which it was subscribed, societies would willingly contribute the necessary increase.

A long discussion on the subject followed this opening explanation, in the course of which it was pointed out that the Education Committee had already made an offer to budget for their requirements, but the suggestion was at the time rejected. It was also stated that the work of the Finance Committee should go further than had been suggested, and that it should have the power to indicate when expenditure had been unwise or reckless. In the course of criticism of the Parliamentary Representation Committee complaint was made of the Union being committed to a fixed amount, which it would have to pay for the work of that committee, although its policy had been one of drifting further away from the control of the Central office.

Eventually a resolution was carried to the effect that the Sub-Office Committee should be instructed to prepare a scheme of book-keeping under which each committee would be held responsible for the money it spent; that each sub-committee should be held responsible for the accuracy of its own accounts; and that each committee should have to budget annually for its requirements.

The urgent necessity of forming a strong and efficient committee of inquiry on the subject of Income Tax was laid before the Board at its subsequent meeting on the following day, 24th August, and a recommendation was made, giving the names of the gentlemen suggested for appointment. In adopting the constitution it was explained that this committee was set up in consequence of a Congress resolution instructing the Board to obtain the fullest information on the subject of the liability of the movement and for the purpose of defence.

At this meeting the Board had under consideration the resolution of the Liverpool Congress in regard to the re-constitution of the Joint Parliamentary Committee. This resolution set forth the need for the parliamentary interests of the movement, in respect to administration and legislation, being delegated to a special committee responsible to the Co-operative Union, and suggested that the constitution should comprise representatives of the two Wholesale Societies and of any other organisation of which Congress shall approve and which is concerned with the work of the Parliamentary Committee. It also enjoined the

Central Board to present a report within six months for circulation to the sections and district associations, in sufficient time for consideration previous to the following Congress. such report to decide upon the method of election of the committee and the organisations which should be represented thereon. A thorough consideration of the matter by the Board was productive of a suggested constitution, which will be placed before the delegates at the next Congress.

A lengthy discussion took place with reference to the National Co-operative Representation Committee, and considerable difference of opinion was shown on the question of the appointment of secretary and organisers, and with regard to the centre where the work should be carried on. Eventually, however, a resolution was agreed to empowering the N.C.R.C. to proceed with the appointment of a secretary and the three organisers already agreed upon in the scheme.

An application from the National Joint Industrial Council for the Baking Trade for the Union to appoint four representatives on the Council was considered, and it was decided to elect two members from the board and invite a representative in London and one in Glasgow, acquainted with the conditions of the baking trade, to make up the number.

A satisfactory interview with the Central Committee of the Women's Guild was reported. This had been held with the object of improving the relations between the two bodies, and of seeing to what extent the duties of each could be co-ordinated in order to further the work of education and propaganda within the movement. It was agreed that the usual grant be made, and resolved that if, at any time, the grant is withheld, adequate reasons should be given. With the object of establishing closer working relations between the Guild and the Union, it was also decided that the United Board and the Guild Central Council should meet together once a year with the object of co-operating in the work in which both organisations are interested.

In accordance with the agreement with the Trades Union Congress Parliamentary Committee to set up local advisory committees, consisting of three trade-unionists and three co-operative representatives, it was agreed that twelve such councils should be formed, and that the sectional boards be directed to arrange for representatives from societies to be appointed.

The question of rendering assistance to co-operative institutions in Russia was brought forward, as the result of an interview of representatives of the Co-operative Union, the C.W.S., and the International Co-operative Alliance with Dr. Harold Williams, a gentleman who had spent a considerable time in Russia, and who was anxious to obtain the help of British co-operators to support the movement in that country, which, he stated, was the only economic movement remaining intact. A deputation from the British movement was suggested, but this was not looked upon favourably by the majority of the members of the board. Eventually, it was agreed that power be given to the United Board to act in the matter as subsequent circumstances directed.

Attention was drawn to the gradual increase in competition and overlapping between industrial and agricultural societies, and a resolution from the South-

Western Section to consider the relations existing between the Co-operative Union and the Agricultural Organisation Society was agreed to.

The question of the establishment of wages boards under State control was introduced on behalf of the Southern Sectional Board. It was thought that in view of the fact that the Government fixed the prices of certain commodities, it ought also to fix the wages and number of hours worked in the production of those commodities. The Board were in general agreement with the suggestion and adopted a resolution that regional wages boards should be set up, under State supervision, for the purpose of creating a minimum wage for all workers in similar occupations.

An important discussion followed on the subject of the liquidation of the national debt upon two proposals brought forward by the Southern and South-Western Sections respectively. The Board considered that the matter was one of urgency and importance. There was no objection to the proposals of the two Sections, and a resolution embodying these was passed, emphatically affirming that the only equitable method of liquidating the enormous burdens thrown upon the nation by the cost of the war, would be by a direct tax—carefully graduated to adjust the burden to the capacity of the taxpayers in accordance with their incomes—and upon all stored wealth. The resolution also demanded the withdrawal of all indirect taxes, which have the effect of increasing the cost of necessities, and enjoined the Publications Committee to issue suitable literature on the subject, and gave instructions for it to be discussed at district conferences.

The following matters were also dealt with, viz., (a) the procedure at district conciliation board meetings, (b) grant for Scottish propaganda, (c) fees of members of conciliation boards, hours and wages boards and district executives, (d) invitation to French congress, (e) recognition of Scottish parliamentary representation committee, (f) election of Central Board chairman, (g) sectional boundaries, (h) political pamphlets, (i) excess profits duty, and (j) national war memorial.

The second meeting was held on 11th and 12th April, 1919, when the chief business was consideration of the report to Congress, but several other items of interest were dealt with, amongst which may be mentioned the following:—(a) Relations with the Agricultural Organisation Society; (b) A Co-operative War Memorial; (c) Eligibility of Employees for Management Committees; (d) Conditions of Co-operative Employment; (e) Land Nationalisation; (f) Housing; (g) Educational Developments.

16. THE UNITED BOARD.

The United Board, which is the executive authority of the Co-operative Union, consists of fifteen members. The Sectional Boards appointed the following members as their representatives on this Board:—

Section.	Representatives.
Irish	Mr. J. Palmer.
Midland	Messrs. W. J. Douse and G. Harris.
Northern	Messrs. J. Davison and S. Galbraith, M.P.

Section.	Representatives.
North-Western ..	Messrs. G. Goodenough, F. Hayward, G. Major, and W. Swindlehurst.
Scottish	Messrs. A. Purdie and G. Wilson.
Southern	Messrs. A. Hainsworth and R. Rowsell.
South-Western ..	Mr. W. H. Watkins.
Western	Mr. D. Williams.

Since last Congress the Board has held six meetings, viz. :—15th June, 21st September, 23rd November, 1918; 11th January, 15th March, and 10th May, 1919.

Ald. F. Hayward was appointed chairman of the Board for the year.

The Board held a joint meeting with the executive of the Women's Co-operative Guild at which important matters were considered, including the following :—

(1) "Methods of Joint Propaganda." The guild were of opinion that the women should take their place in any propaganda scheme which may be inaugurated by the Union.

(2) "Relations with the Central Education Committee." The co-ordination of class work was most essential, and the Union were anxious that the guild should co-operate with the Educational Committee to make classes a success whether they were guild classes or not. As a result of the discussion on this matter it was suggested that a joint meeting of the Educational Committee and the executive of the Women's Guild should be held, and that Ald. F. Hayward should act as chairman.

(3) "Official Representation at Congress, Conferences, &c." On this subject both parties were agreed as to the desirability of the Central Board and the Central Committee of the Guild being officially represented at each others' sectional and district conferences and congresses.

(4) "Government and other Deputations." The representatives of the Women's Guild raised the question of representation of women on deputations to the Government and other public bodies, and the representation of women on National committees, urging that it should be recognised that the movement was composed as largely of women as of men, and that when the Union agreed to send deputations to public bodies, or when National committees were being set up, women should be among the co-operative representatives.

(5) "Joint Campaign of Trade-unionists and Co-operators." The Guild wished that a great campaign should be arranged jointly by co-operators and trade-unionists, but this, it was pointed out, was already being done.

17. THE OFFICE COMMITTEE.

During the intervals of the meetings of the United Board the operations of the Union are directed by the Office Committee, which is appointed by and from the members of the United Board. The following have acted as the Office Committee for the year :—

Section.	Representatives.
Irish	Mr. J. Palmer.
Midland	Mr. W. J. Douse.
Northern	Mr. J. Davison.
North-Western	Messrs. G. Goodenough and F. Hayward.
Scottish	Mr. A. Purdie.
Southern	Mr. R. Rowsell.
South-Western	Mr. W. H. Watkins.
Western	Mr. D. Williams.

Alderman F. Hayward has acted as chairman of the committee.

18. COMMITTEES OF THE UNION.

The following is a list of the committees which have been in existence during the past year:—

- (a) Committee on Education.
- (b) Publications Committee.
- (c) Joint Propaganda Committee.
- (d) Joint Parliamentary Committee.
- (e) National Co-operative Representation Committee.
- (f) Joint Committee of Trade-unionists and Co-operators.
- (g) United Advisory Council of Trade-unionists and Co-operators.
- (h) Co-operative Defence Committee.

The reports submitted by these committees are given in their order in this report.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

19. CENTRAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

REPORT TO CONGRESS.

(See Appendix IV. pages 288 to 301).

The constitution of the Committee for the past Congress year (1918-1919) has been as follows:—

Representing the Sections:

Irish	Mr. H. Archer.	Scottish	Mr. J. Lucas, M.A.
Midland	*Mr. A. H. Jones.		F.E.I.S.
Northern	Mr. W. B. Rae.	Southern	Mrs. Gasson.
North-Western .	Mr. E. Booth.	South-Western .	Rev. G. A. Ramsay,
	Mr. S. Fairbrother.		B.A.
		Western	Mr. W. H. Bryant.

* Owing to the absence of Mr. Jones on war service, Mr. J. Butcher has acted as substitute.

Representing Educational Committees' Associations:

Midland	Mr. T. Hackett.	Southern	Miss J. P. Madams.
Northern	Mr. A. Stoddart.	South-Western .	Mr. W. White.
North-Western.	Mr. J. F. Ashworth.		
	Mr. E. Couldwell.		

Representing the Women's Co-operative Guild: Mrs. Lawton.

Chairman of Committee : Mr. W. R. Rae.

Adviser of Studies : Professor F. Hall, M.A., B.Com.

Secretary : Mr. C. E. Wood.

Mr. W. R. Rae was appointed chairman for the seventeenth year in succession.

During the past year, the committee formed itself into two sub-committees, each containing, approximately, half the number of the full committee. This was in accordance with the scheme outlined in the Committee's Report to the Liverpool Congress, and the plan has worked in a satisfactory manner. One of the sub-committees, or the full committee, has met each month.

GENERAL REVIEW.

The year under review has again been a war year, with the conditions less favourable than ever for carrying on educational work. This has affected the number of students attending classes organised under the committee's scheme, and has hindered other work as well; but in many other respects the year has been one of great activity, and the committee have done their best to lay the foundations for such after-war developments as are needed to enable the movement's educational work to rise to the responsibilities that may be imposed upon the Union. During the past year, the lectures to secretaries have again been suspended, owing to the difficulties of travelling and the inability of secretaries to attend any conferences that might have been arranged. For similar reasons the lectures to managers have not been as numerous as in previous years, but these, and lectures to secretaries, will, it is hoped, be resumed next session. A new feature introduced during the year was lectures to committees, a course of lectures being given to a group of committees in South Wales. It is hoped that this work may also be developed immediately peace conditions prevail. Another new feature was a week's school for educational secretaries. This school was held at the Otley Convalescent Home in May. The arrangement of a school for political organisers and secretaries of political councils is under consideration at the time of preparing this report.

Local educational committees have also been affected by war conditions during the past year, but it is hoped that they will resume their normal activity now that peace is approaching. The need for their activities is greater than ever, and when the halls and other rooms which have been taken over by the military authorities during the period of the war are again available, it is important that their activities should be even more extensive than they were in pre-war days. As evidence of the growing interest in educational work, we are able to report that an increasing number of societies

are arranging week-end schools, whilst several societies have recently established educational committees.

Connection with outside bodies has been maintained by the committee during the past year on the usual lines, and a list of the committee's representatives on various organisations is given in the appendix to this report. During the year, the committee received and accepted an invitation to take part in the work of the Y.M.C.A. Joint Universities Committee, which has been arranging courses of lectures and classes for men in the various fields of war operations and in internment camps in Holland, as well as in hospitals and camps at home.

Educational associations have continued their work with increased activity during the past year. Several of them have arranged week-end schools, which have met with much success. Some of the associations have taken steps to bring a larger number of committees into membership, and it is pleasant to be able to record that their efforts in this direction have also met with success. The North-Western Educational Committees' Association has during the year modified its constitution and organisation by forming within the section ten districts, in each of which a district executive will arrange conferences and promote educational effort. This arrangement, it is hoped, will enable the societies to meet more frequently at conferences than is at present possible when the section is so large. The sectional organisation will, however, be maintained, and two or more sectional conferences will be arranged during each year. The formation of an educational association in the Western Section has been decided upon, and at the time of preparing this report a preliminary committee is drafting a constitution and code of rules.

The following paragraphs deal with specific items of work undertaken by the Central Education Committee during the past year :—

The week-end school movement has been much developed during the past year and continues to be a popular form of education.

During the year the committee approached the Co-operative Wholesale Society regarding "Welfare Work," and offered the services of the Central Education Committee in any educational work that might be undertaken as part of any welfare scheme which the Wholesale Society might inaugurate. The Co-operative Wholesale Society replied "that the Co-operative Union be informed that, in our opinion, they would not be helpful in the ordinary welfare work at our various factories. So far as the educational work is concerned, we are considering what can be done under Mr. Fisher's Educational Bill in conjunction with the Whitley Reconstruction Scheme."

CLASS WORK.

During the past year the total number of students enrolled in the 664 classes organised under the supervision of the Educational Department was 20,794, as against 550 classes and 20,499 students for the Congress year 1917-18. New subjects have again been introduced, both in the correspondence

classes and in the oral classes. It is to be regretted that the number of correspondence students this year shows a slight decline, the apparent reason being the further recruiting for the Army and the influenza epidemic, which has also affected in a serious manner the success of the classes conducted by local societies.

At Holyoake House, in addition to the usual classes, a special class on Public Speaking, a class on Co-operative Statistics and Statistical Methods, a class on Local Government, and a class on the Survey Committee's Reports have been held.

The Women's Classes continue their useful work, but, like other classes, they have been affected by the prevailing sickness. During the past session there have been 52 classes and about 1,500 students, as against 52 classes and 1,765 students in the session 1917-18. A correspondence class on the syllabuses of the women's courses has also been organised during the past session.

CLASSES IN POLITICAL SUBJECTS AND POLITICAL ORGANISATION

In connection with the scheme for securing direct co-operative representation on local governing bodies and in Parliament, a large number of two-days schools, one-day schools, and classes have been held during the past session. The arrangements for these classes and schools were delegated to the sections. There have been organised up to date—

34 Two-days Schools.

40 One-day „

and a number of classes, details of which have not been supplied to us. Nearly 2,000 students attended the one-day and two-days schools.

EXAMINATIONS.

There is a further decline this year in the number of entries for examinations, the continuation of the war and recruiting being probably responsible for this, as well as the reduced attendance at classes due to the darkened streets and to the influenza epidemic, which have militated against regular attendance at classes. Full details regarding subjects of examination and entries therefor are given in the appendix.

The revised scheme of grants, prizes, and certificates comes into operation at the end of the present session, and the committee are proposing to make further alterations for next session.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMME.

A new programme was not this year issued. The cost of paper and printing involved a large expense, and as alterations for the present session were of only a minor character they were intimated to societies in a special leaflet. The programme will, however, be issued in an extended form for the coming session, 1919-20, and it is hoped that the publication of this enlarged programme will meet with the approval of the movement and lead to a development of class work and other educational activities.

SCHOLARSHIPS.

One of the changes effected in the new arrangements which came into operation during the present session was an increase in the number of scholarships provided in connection with the classes in Co-operation and other subjects. At least one scholarship is given for each subject in which students present themselves for examination, if a satisfactory standard of attainment is reached.

The Blandford Scholarships are, during the present session, being given in accordance with the recommendation of the Survey Committee which was adopted by the Central Education Committee. The recommendation provides for one-half of the Blandford Fund collected at Congress being allocated for scholarship purposes, and two scholarships for research work will be granted upon the results of the examination in Stage III.; "Co-operation," at the end of the present session.

The Two Jubilee Research Scholarships, which were established to celebrate the Jubilee Congress of the Co-operative Union, have been awarded for the first time. Seventeen applications for the scholarships were received. They have been awarded to Mr. W. J. M. Brown, Paisley, and Mr. T. McLeod, Liverpool.

The committee are pleased to be able to report that the Co-operative Reference Library, Dublin, has followed the example of the Central Education Committee and offered one scholarship for research purposes, the holder of the scholarship to spend at least a part of his time in pursuing investigations in Ireland. The selection of the holder was left to the Central Education Committee, subject to the confirmation of the Reference Library. This scholarship has been awarded to Mr. W. McLaine, Salford, Manchester.

EDUCATIONAL SESSIONS AT CONGRESS.

At the Educational Session on the Saturday afternoon at the Liverpool Congress, the Adviser of Studies gave an address upon "Further Prospective Developments of Co-operative Education," in which he outlined some of the developments immediately, or shortly, to be undertaken.

A large audience attended at Birkenhead on the Tuesday evening, when the Right Hon. H. A. L. Fisher, M.P., President of the Board of Education, gave an address. The hall was a large one, but quite inadequate to accommodate all those who wished to hear the Minister for Education, and many had to be turned away disappointed.

At the forthcoming Congress the Adviser of Studies will speak, on the Saturday afternoon, on the "Co-operative College," and on the Tuesday evening Miss Margaret Macmillan will speak upon "The Future of Education among Adolescents."

HUGHES AND NEALE SCHOLARSHIPS.

The war being now virtually over, and most of the men in the Army being demobilised, it has been decided to resume the granting of these scholarships in 1920.

ESSAY COMPETITION.

The subject of the Essay Competition for the session 1917-18 was "Future Co-operative Educational Developments and the Relation of Co-operative to National Education in these Developments." The essay submitted by Mr. H. Armitage, Huddersfield, was considered the best, and the writer was awarded a scholarship value £3. 10s. The paper submitted by Mr. T. W. Jackson, Ilford, was considered to be the next best, and he was awarded a scholarship value £2. 10s. Both scholarship holders attended the Scarborough Summer School.

The subject selected for the essay competition for the current year is "The Education and Organisation of Young Co-operators." At the moment of writing this report the awards have not been made.

EASTER WEEK-END GATHERINGS.

The committee again decided, in view of the difficulties of travelling, to abandon the idea of holding a national Easter week-end gathering, but recommended each sectional board to undertake the organisation of a sectional week-end in conjunction with the educational association of the section, and several sectional week-ends have been held. The Midland Section arranged a week-end gathering at Birmingham, the Southern Section held one at Brighton, and the South-Western Section one at Torquay. The committee regret that other sections did not see their way, or were unable, to organise similar week-end gatherings.

SUMMER SCHOOLS.

Further developments of summer school work have taken place during the past session. Schools were held at Ayr, Larne, Mitcheldean (Gloucestershire), Scarborough, Maidenhead, and Plymouth, this being the largest number of schools yet arranged in one year. Some schools continued for a fortnight and others for three weeks, the total number of weeks for all the schools being fourteen, and the students in attendance registered a total of 520 weeks' attendances, an average of nearly forty students per week. The schools continue to appeal to an ever-widening circle of co-operators, and the difficulty facing the committee is to find a sufficient number of suitable buildings for accommodating those who desire to attend the schools. This emphasises the need for the proposed Co-operative College, and also for obtaining a number of guest houses that could be used for summer schools and week-end school purposes. Inquiries regarding guest houses have been made during the year, and one or two places have been visited, but no further action has been taken.

It is hoped during the coming summer to arrange at least as many schools as were held last year, and, if circumstances are favourable, even more will be organised, including one for junior co-operators, this being the first time that a summer school for juniors has been attempted.

TECHNICAL SCHOLARSHIPS.

The Central Education Committee, recognising the great need for efficiency in the movement, prepared a scheme for granting twelve technical scholarships of the value of £25 each for potential managers and secretaries, these scholar-

ships being intended to enable suitable students to attend at Holyoake House for three months in order to study, intensively, subjects bearing upon co-operative management and administration. A request was made to the United Board for their approval to the granting of these scholarships, but this approval was withheld on the ground that the Union funds could not, at present, stand the expense. In view of the importance of this matter, the Central Education Committee had an interview again with the United Board on 15th February, but the request has not yet met with the approval of the United Board.

THE ORGANISATION OF JUNIOR CO-OPERATORS.

This matter has engaged the careful consideration of the committee during the past year. For the purpose of ascertaining the present position of this work, and in order to elicit the opinion of those engaged in it, two conferences were arranged, at London and Leeds respectively, at which consultations took place between representatives of the Central Education Committee and those who are engaged in organising this work among juniors.

On the same days, conferences of educational committees were also held for the purpose of discussing our work among juniors, in order to develop interest in this aspect of the committee's work and pave the way for its expansion.

The committee have also discussed with representatives of the Boy Scout movement and the Girl Guide movement the possibilities of these organisations in reference to the co-operative movement. After considering the whole question the committee have decided to work on independent lines and have prepared a scheme of organisation which covers a wide expansion of activities for junior co-operators. It is intended that societies should cater for the social and recreational needs of young co-operators, as well as for their educational needs, and organise clubs of various kinds. This scheme is embodied in a pamphlet which has been issued to the movement, and it is intended to follow up this pamphlet by discussions at sectional conferences and by stimulating educational committees to take action on the lines suggested.

In connection with work among juniors, reference should again be made to the summer school for juniors, which will this year be held for the first time.

A suggestion has been made that a boarding school for junior co-operators should be established, but the matter has been deferred for the present. Societies are frequently granting scholarships tenable at the ordinary secondary schools, and it is felt that such scholarships could be more advantageously utilised if granted for attendance at a co-operative school organised on the lines usually adopted for boarding schools.

"CO-OPERATIVE EDUCATOR."

This magazine has been continued during the year with undiminished success. No special effort has been made to increase the circulation, as supplies of paper have been restricted, but now that the position in regard to paper

supplies is becoming easier it is intended to take steps to increase the circulation.

EDUCATIONAL LEAGUE.

Enrolments for the Co-operators' Educational League continue and there are at the present time 875 members. For various reasons no special effort has been made to increase the number of members during the past year. The circumstances are now more favourable, and during the coming year it is intended to undertake greater activity in this direction.

SCHOOL FOR MANAGERS IN IRELAND.

An innovation in the work of the committee was the arrangement of a training school for managers in Ireland. The special difficulties in regard to securing co-operative managers in Ireland was one reason prompting the holding of the school, and the desirability of developing technical education in all parts of the United Kingdom was another reason. It was thought possible that with the experience gained in the Irish school similar schools may be held in Great Britain. This school in Ireland was to be of a fortnight's duration and held immediately after Easter, but unexpected difficulties arose, and the holding of the school was deferred.

JOINT COMMITTEE FOR POLITICAL EDUCATION.

This committee was constituted by the United Board from representatives of the Women's Guilds of England and Scotland, and from the Central Education Committee, for the purpose of organising educational work in relation to the movement's political activities. Owing to the change in constitution of the National Co-operative Representation Committee, it was felt that this special joint committee was no longer necessary, and the Central Education Committee therefore recommended to the United Board that the joint committee be disbanded and the work undertaken by the Central Education Committee, but that a representative of the Scottish Women's Guild be added to the Central Education Committee, and that a representative of the National Co-operative Representation Committee be invited to attend the meetings of the Central Education Committee when educational work in relation to political action is being discussed. The United Board approved the recommendation.

EDUCATION ACT.

The committee have considered the Education Act of 1918 and find that it contains wide possibilities for the development of all forms of social and technical education. They consider that the movement should share in the forming of opinion in regard to developments made possible by the Act, and should also consider the movement's own educational work as affected by it. The committee are at present formulating a policy in regard to these matters, and this policy will, in due course, be put before the movement.

CO-OPERATIVE COLLEGE.

Work on college lines is now becoming inevitable. Whole-time students are attending Holyoake House—one student is from the Australian Forces and has been sent at his Government's expense—and others are expected. The Long Eaton Society has established a memorial scholarship, tenable at Holyoake House, and other societies are contemplating similar developments. The committee therefore propose to organise a scheme of education on college lines at Holyoake House next session.

During the year the question of a war, or peace, memorial for the co-operative movement has been much discussed, and suggestions have been made that a Co-operative College would be a suitable form which the memorial might assume. The committee endorsed this suggestion, and they brought the suggestion to the notice of the United Board. In the opinion of the committee, there could be no finer memorial than a Co-operative College, the object of which would be to train and inspire students for co-operative and social service and disseminate the ideas of co-operation, upon which alone a permanent peace can be established. The Central Education Committee suggest that a fund of £50,000 should be raised to provide for the erection of a building and the establishment of an endowment fund. The subject of the college is to be discussed at the Saturday afternoon educational conference at Congress, when it is hoped it may be possible to announce definite action. As long ago as 1915 a conference, drawn from all sections of the movement, was held at Holyoake House and declared itself in favour of the establishment of such a college. Propaganda work has been going on in the meantime, and developments at Holyoake House and the summer schools, have brought the college within the range of practical possibility; and it is hoped that the Carlisle Congress will give such approval to the College proposal as will strengthen the hands of the committee in their efforts to secure the establishment of the College. An outline of the scheme prepared by the committee is given as an appendix to this report.

NATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE MEN'S GUILD.

One of the matters to which the committee would refer in this report is the Men's Guild, which seems likely to assume greater activity now that the war is coming to an end, many inquiries having been received in response to a circular sent out to societies by the committee. A fuller report of the activities of the Men's Guild is given in the appendix to this report. Suggestions have recently been made for the establishment of joint guilds and a joint committee representing the Central Education Committee and the various guilds is now considering the matter.

INDUSTRIAL CONDITIONS AND WELFARE WORK.

During the past two or three years, much attention has been attracted to the question of welfare work, and as some form of educational work is a part of every well-devised welfare scheme, the committee have been brought in touch with the subject on several occasions. There is a fairly widespread

opinion in the movement that in matters affecting the comfort and general welfare of its employees the movement does not hold quite the same lead as it formerly did. Many enlightened employers have already organised welfare schemes of a commendable nature, and there is much in these schemes which the movement might copy. We understand that the Survey Committee are presenting a report upon this subject, and we therefore await that report before expressing any opinion regarding policy; but we are of the opinion that the movement should undertake more welfare activity in co-operation with the employees, and that education should be a feature of every welfare scheme.

SURVEY COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

The committee, during the past year, have on various occasions considered the recommendations of the Survey Committee, so far as these bear on education, and have adopted them as far as exigencies of staff and war-time circumstances have permitted. Other recommendations will be carried out as opportunities occur. The allocation by the Union for educational purposes of 20 per cent of the subscriptions received from societies has not yet come into operation, but the committee hope it may do so at the beginning of 1920. Some societies have adopted the recommendation of the Survey Committee in regard to the constitution of their education committee, and some have adopted the recommendation *re* educational grants (of a definite amount per member, instead of a percentage of profits) and other societies are moving in the same direction.

STAFF.

During the past year Miss M. K. Ashby, B.A., has joined the staff, in place of Miss E. M. Bradley, M.A. (resigned), and Mr. T. W. Mercer has joined the staff to assist in the Educational and Publications Departments.

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS.

The committee would point out that the present staff is quite inadequate to deal with the work that has to be done. The staff has been working overtime continuously during the period of the war, and cannot be expected to continue this overtime under normal conditions. During the last two or three years great efforts have been made to develop the educational work of the movement, and to open new avenues of work, but if the work is to be developed and adapted to the needs of the movement it is imperative that additions to the staff should be made. It is for the Central Board and Congress to decide whether they will make it possible for the Central Education Committee to carry out this programme of work by giving the necessary assistance, or whether the committee must contract its activities within limits made possible by the present staff. It is the opinion of the committee that more educational work, and not less, is required, but the needed development cannot take place unless an adequate staff is provided by the movement. The committee believe that their recent work, and the future possibilities which they have indicated, are a sufficient justification for an increase of staff to meet the responsibilities

which rest upon them, and they appeal with confidence to Congress for approval of their efforts and for authority and assistance to continue the developments upon which they have entered. In order that Congress and the movement generally may realise the importance of the work which is being delayed or held up from lack of staff, the following items from the programme of work contemplated by the committee is given.

The continuation of the development of the educational programme, involving the preparation of syllabuses in a greater variety of subjects, the organisation of additional correspondence classes, and the arrangement of the necessary additional examinations.

New courses and additional classes for women co-operators.

The development of educational work in connection with the movement's political activities.

Development of social, recreative, and educational work among junior co-operators.

An increase in the number of lectures to managers, secretaries, and committee-men.

Development of work on college lines at Holyoake House.

Provision for research students at Holyoake House.

Increased provision for technical education.

The extension of the summer-school movement and the week-end school movement.

An increase in the number of text books for junior and adult classes.

The publication of the "Co-operative Educator" monthly.

The appointment of educational organisers.

The appointment of travelling teachers.

The organisation of a staff of lecturers.

Development of the library at Holyoake House.

Increased provision of lantern slides.

Provision of advice and assistance for societies desiring to organise schemes of welfare work.

W. R. RAE, Chairman.

F. HALL, M.A., Adviser of Studies.

C. E. WOOD, Secretary.

RESOLUTION.

This Congress realising the value and necessity of education on co-operative lines as a means of fostering co-operation in all its aspects (and assisting the establishment of a Co-operative Commonwealth, approves the work of the Central Educational Committee and the proposed development of its activities, including the establishment of a Co-operative College; and is of the opinion that the committee should be provided with the necessary staff and financial assistance to develop its work on the lines indicated in the report to Congress.

20. STATISTICS AND GENERAL PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE.

The committee has been constituted as under during the Congress year 1918-19 :—

United Board Representatives : Messrs. A. Hainsworth, G. Harris, and G. Major.

Central Education Committee Representatives : Messrs. J. Lucas, M.A., W. R. Rae, and Rev. G. A. Ramsay, B.A.

National Co-operative Representation Committee Representative : Mr. C. A. W. Saxton.

Chairman : Mr. W. R. Rae.

Adviser of Studies : Professor F. Hall, M.A., B.Com.

Secretary : Mr. C. E. Wood.

The committee has met on six occasions during the year.

GENERAL REVIEW.

The steady progress of the Publications Department has been maintained during the past year. A much larger number of pamphlets and books has been issued than during previous years; and in addition to an increased number of ordinary propaganda and conference pamphlets a number of pamphlets, &c., bearing on the political activities of the movement have been issued. Some developments which the committee would have undertaken have been delayed owing to the high price of paper and shortage of staff. The sales during the year 1918 have been £2,924, as against £2,379 in 1917.

The shortage of staff has prevented the development of the organisation of the Publications Department during the year, but with the return of the members of the staff who have been serving in the army it is becoming possible to place the Sales Department on a better basis. During the year Mr. T. W. Mercer, of Plymouth, has joined the staff of the Union, and is devoting part of his time to the work of the Publications Department. This addition to the literary staff has been very helpful, but it has only slightly relieved the pressure upon the department, the work of which grows weekly as the committee undertakes new developments to meet new calls that are made upon the Union for literature of all kinds. The committee has reached a point in its work when further development must be checked unless additional staff is provided, and it is for Congress to say whether it wishes the activities of the department to be restricted, or whether it will provide the requisite assistance to make possible the expansion which the committee think necessary.

A few societies have added bookselling departments to their activities during the year, but the number of societies that have realised the value and possibilities of such a department is still small, and the Publications Department urge upon societies the desirability of organising a bookselling department and utilising this and other opportunities—such as members' meetings, conferences, week-end schools, &c.,—for developing the sale of co-operative literature.

The committee, during the year, have issued a new and comprehensive catalogue of the publications of the Union, and the growth of the Union's publishing activities may be judged from the fact that this catalogue runs to 96 pages. A copy of the catalogue has been sent to all societies that are members of the Union.

Arrangements have been made with the Co-operative Reference Library, Dublin, for a translation from the French of Professor Gide's book "*Les Sociétés Co-opératives de Consommation*." This translation will be published in the autumn. Members of the staff of the library have also prepared manuscripts for books on "*Co-operation in Many Lands*" (Vol. I.), "*Co-operation in Denmark*," and "*Co-operation in Ireland*," and these books will be published in the summer.

During the year the editing and issuing of the Co-operative Union "*Quarterly Review*" has been transferred to the Publications Department, and it is expected that at an early date the magazine known as the "*Co-operative Manager and Secretary*" will also be issued through the department with its name altered to the "*Co-operative Official*." A joint editorial committee representing the Union and the Managers', Secretaries', and Officials' Associations will control the magazine.

Among the publications issued by the department during the year are three plays. The committee are thus carrying out one of the recommendations of the Survey Committee. Other recommendations of the Survey Committee have been considered and approved, but the present staff of the department is inadequate to the carrying out of the recommendations. The list given below of books, pamphlets, &c., issued during the year will show, we think, that the department has been very active during the year, but it is the committee's regret that more has not been accomplished. The cause is almost entirely shortage of staff, but the high price of paper has delayed the reprinting of some of the standard books for which there is a steady demand. The department has also published propaganda posters for societies during the year, and developments along this line are expected.

During the year, the United Board, for the better co-ordination of the work of the Publications Committee and the National Co-operative Representation Committee, have added to the Publications Committee a representative of the National Co-operative Representation Committee. Mr. C. A. W. Saxton has been appointed as the representative of the Co-operative Representation Committee.

Shortage of staff is also responsible for the slow development of the Trade Information Bureau. The foundations of the bureau have been laid and much work done, but the committee visualise much greater opportunities of usefulness to the movement when adequate staff is provided for the department.

The connection of the Union with the Labour Research Department and the Co-operative Reference Library, Dublin, has been maintained during the year. The Labour Research Department has issued several important memoranda during the year, and these, with the monthly circular of the Department

and "Better Business" issued by the Co-operative Reference Library, have been forwarded to all societies participating in the joint research scheme. There are now 244 societies affiliated to the joint research scheme. When the Union's Trade Information Bureau is fully staffed and completely organised it is intended to publish a quarterly or monthly bulletin embodying the results of research likely to be of service to societies. The Publications Committee, at the request of the United Board, is preparing a history of the Co-operative Union and the Central Board, and this work will be pushed forward as staff conditions permit.

BOOKS, BOOKLETS, PAMPHLETS, AND LEAFLETS PUBLISHED DURING THE YEAR.

(a) GENERAL.

Books.

Report of the 50th Annual Co-operative Congress held at Liverpool, Whitsuntide, 1918.

"Sunnyside," a Story of Industrial History and Co-operation. By F. Hall, M.A., B.Com.

Booklets.

"The Organisation and Administration of Large Distributive Societies." General Co-operative Survey Report, being the full third interim report of the Survey Committee on Trade, Education, and Constitution, as presented at the Liverpool Congress.

Pamphlets.

"A Review of the Trade Report of the Survey Committee." By F. Hall, M.A., B.Com.

"A Review of the Education Report of the Survey Committee." By F. Hall, M.A., B.Com.

"A Review of the Survey Committee's Recommendations regarding the Constitution of the Co-operative Union." By T. Horrocks.

The Inaugural Address delivered at the Liverpool Congress, 1918. By T. Killon.

"Further Prospective Developments of Co-operative Education." An address given at the Liverpool Congress, 1918. By F. Hall, M.A., B.Com.

Co-operators and Reconstruction—

Pamphlet No. 1: "Ideas of Peace and Reconstruction." By F. Hall, M.A., B.Com.

Pamphlet No. 2: "The Need for Co-operative Action."

Pamphlet No. 3: "The League of Nations and its Co-operative Implications." By F. Hall, M.A., B.Com.

Pamphlet No. 4: "Labour and Reconstruction." By T. W. Mercer.

"International Trading after the War." By J. H. Jones, M.A.

"Excess Profits Duty and Income Tax." By Newman H. Cooper.

"Income Tax: Notes and Extracts." By Newman H. Cooper.

"Taxation: Present and Future." By W. T. Charter.

"The Organising of Public Meetings." By A. Hainsworth.

- "The Need and Organisation of Canvassing." By A. Hainsworth.
 "Co-operative Education." By A. T. Wintersgill.
 "The Work of a Co-operative Educational Association." By F. Hall, M.A., B.Com.
 "The Possibilities of the Junior Co-operators' Movement." By R. Donaldson.
 "The National Co-operative Policy and Programme for 1918-19." By F. Hall, M.A., B.Com.
 "Co-operation in Cornwall." By W. H. Watkins.

Leaflets.

- "Trade Unionists and Co-operation."
 "The Trades Union Congress and Co-operation."

Plays.

- "How Jane Spendall Became a Co-operator." By Mrs. Jessie Hare-Wakefield.
 "From Flower Land to Mortal Land." By Mrs. E. Fewins.
 "Mutual Confessions." By Mrs. Jessie Hare-Wakefield.

(b) POLITICAL.

Booklet.

- "The Case for Co-operative Representation and How to Obtain it." By B. Williams.

Pamphlets.

- "Direct Representation in Parliament." Paper by the late Mr. T. Tweddell, revised by W. H. Watkins.
 "Co-operators and Direct Representation." By R. Donaldson.

(a) *General Literature.*

- Syllabus for Schools and Classes on "Co-operative Political Representation."
 "Direct Representation of Co-operators from the Woman's Standpoint." By Mrs. E. M. Christie.
 Revised Scheme of Constitution of the National Co-operative Representation Committee.

(b) *Political Propaganda Leaflets.*

- "Programme of Co-operative Policy," "The Test," "Qualifications for the Vote," "Why Co-operators have entered into Politics," "Political Policy of Co-operation," "Votes for Women," "The Vote: Its Privileges and its Responsibility," "An Appeal to Women," "A New Force," "Women Co-operators! What are you going to gain by the Vote?" and "The Advantages of Representation."

(c) *General Election Literature.*

- "National Manifesto," "Co-operative Women to the Polls," "Vote for Co-operative Candidates," "The Issue," "Why you should support the Co-operative Candidates," and a number of Pictorial Posters.

(d) Local Election Literature.

"Get Interested in Your Own Affairs," "Women Guardians are Wanted," and "To the Woman Voter."

BOOKS IN THE PRESS.

"Co-operation in Many Lands." Volume I.

"Co-operation in Scotland."

"Co-operation in Ireland."

"Co-operation in Denmark."

"Local Government."

Nearly a dozen other books are also in course of preparation.

The Publications Committee, in asking Congress to approve their present work and provide them with the assistance necessary for its development, think it desirable to outline briefly some of the principal developments they have in view. These include :—

The publication of an increased number of text books and propaganda books, of which at least twenty are urgently required at the present moment.

The publication of an increased number of pamphlets, particularly those dealing with questions of the hour and with the movement's political activities.

The publication of music, song books, and plays, for which there is a growing and insistent demand.

The development of an organised scheme for securing an increased sale and circulation of co-operative literature.

The development of the Co-operative Union *Quarterly Review*, in order to increase the frequency of its publication and its utility to societies.

The development of the Trade Information Bureau by the undertaking of additional research work in regard to working costs of various departments, the preparation of suitable model statistical forms for the use of committees and officials of societies, and the dissemination through a regularly-issued bulletin of information bearing upon the trading activities of societies.

The carrying out of the recommendations of the Survey Committee as approved by the Swansea Congress.

W. R. RAE, Chairman.

F. HALL, M.A., Adviser of Studies.

C. E. WOOD, Secretary.

21. THE JOINT PROPAGANDA COMMITTEE.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE.

The constitution of the Joint Propaganda Committee for the year has been as follows :—

Representing the Co-operative Union: Messrs. J. Langley, W. Gregory, and T. Way.

Representing the Co-operative Wholesale Society: Messrs. A. W. Golightly, T. E. Shotton, A. Varley, and G. Woodhouse

Mr. T. E. Shotton was appointed chairman for the year, and Messrs. T. Brodrick and A. Whitehead as joint secretaries.

The work of the committee has of necessity been restricted during the past year, owing to the registration of customers and shortage of supplies; nevertheless, whenever an opportunity presented itself the committee promptly took action to render assistance.

Since the resignation of Mr. E. L. Griffiths as organiser the committee has not appointed a successor, as Mr. Griffiths kindly promised to undertake any work which may be necessary. His services have been called upon on several occasions, and the way in which he carried out the duties resulted in an improvement of the position of the societies assisted.

The Shropshire and Mid-Wales District Association had again mapped out a programme of special propaganda in its area, but owing to the district being rural in character, the difficulties of railway communications, and the shortage of petrol, it has been compelled to hold over the contemplated efforts for the time being; however, it is now making arrangements for the completion of the work at the earliest possible moment.

A special grant was made by the committee to supplement the amount being raised locally by the Devon District Association to pay the expenses of a full-time organiser. Mr. George E. Griffiths was appointed, and during the time he was occupied did a vast amount of propaganda work. Circumstances, however, compelled a cessation of this work, which has now been resumed, and the services of the organiser are being solicited for special work in Cornwall.

In the last report of this committee mention was made of an application for the appointment of a special organiser for London; at that time doubts were expressed as to the time for undertaking such a big venture in London being opportune, and the matter was consequently held up. Permission was eventually given by the Joint Propaganda Committee, and met with the approval of the United Board and the Wholesale Directors. A special committee, consisting of the combined North and South Metropolitan District Conference Associations along with representatives from this committee, was formed and a code of rules adopted, under which the work is now proceeding. Mr. A. Hainsworth, of Woolwich, was appointed as the organiser, and, notwithstanding the difficult time through which we have recently been passing, he has done some most

excellent work, and there is every probability that the special efforts now being made will be crowned with success.

A full report of the work of the London organiser appears in the report of the Southern Sectional Board.

The committee meetings have been held at irregular intervals during the past year, but when matters become normal the committee will be prepared to deal with the special work for which it was formed, and will, no doubt, select some person (or persons) as successor to Mr. E. L. Griffiths.

T. E. SHOTTON, Chairman.

T. BRODRICK } Joint

A. WHITEHEAD, } Secretaries.

22. JOINT PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE.

The Joint Parliamentary Committee is at present constituted as follows :—

Co-operative Union : Messrs. W. T. Charter, G. Goodenough, W. H. Watkins, and G. Wilson.

Co-operative Wholesale Society : Messrs. T. W. Allen, P. Coley, W. E. Dudley, and W. Lander.

Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society : Messrs. J. Bardner, H. Campbell, A. B. Weir, and J. Young.

Messrs. T. Brodrick and A. Whitehead (honorary secretaries).

Mr. H. J. May, secretary.

The Joint Parliamentary Committee has held twenty-four meetings, and its sub-committees have held thirty-five meetings during the year.

The Co-operative Parliamentary Representation Committee met seven times before handing over its responsibilities to the new National Co-operative Representation Committee in August last.

A GENERAL REVIEW.

In reviewing the year's work it is necessary to point out that the committee has dealt with a mass of detail work, all of which has been of importance to the movement in the special conditions of Government control which we have had to face. It is, however, quite impossible to deal fully in this report with the majority of these questions. In many instances our representations have met with satisfactory treatment and prompt adjustment of difficulties or grievances. In others, we are confident that they have had good effect on the ultimate decisions of the Ministries. It is, however, of the nature of things governmental that it is not always possible to record an exact and definite result.

On the larger questions of policy the influence of the committee's work has told heavily.

This time last year the question of compulsory general rationing was one of urgent importance, and the lines on which it was developing gave cause for

anxiety. It will be seen from the fuller statement in this report that the Parliamentary Committee left no stone unturned to secure equitable treatment for all consumers and full liberty for our societies. The measure of success which characterised the Government schemes was largely due to our efforts.

The disappearance of the "datum period" from the control of the principal articles of food can also be traced to the persistence with which the committee has followed up the question for the past two years.

In our efforts to secure free transfer of registration, the greatest hindrance was the "datum period." Under the war conditions, which drafted huge sections of the population into new areas, to say nothing of the dislocation resulting from actual military service, it produced serious inequalities of distribution. We have worked at this problem since 1915, when the Sugar Commission adopted the evil precedent. In season and out the need of reform has been urged upon each Minister of Food from the commencement of control. The partial opportunity afforded in July of last year and the complete concession of January in this year mark the success, even if belated, of the agitation of the committee.

The bread of the people has been sorely threatened during the war, at first as to quality, but latterly as to price. We have no hesitation in saying that the main bulwark between the consumer and private trading interests in this matter has been the co-operative organisation, which has proved to the Ministry that the demands of the trade for increased prices were without justification.

In the matter of co-operative representation on Food Control Committees we have had another long fight, which has eventually resulted in the movement being fairly well represented throughout the country. In all these matters we have found a real accession of strength and a sustenance for our efforts in the work of the Consumers' Council. Not the least important piece of work undertaken by the committee after the armistice was that of pressing for a continuance of "control" until something like normal conditions prevail. Our representations were warmly endorsed by Mr. Clynes and, subsequently, by Mr. G. H. Roberts.

On the question of Military Service, the results of the Regional Advisory Committees constitute a notable achievement for the safeguarding of our societies. It is not within the scope of this report to record the great contribution of the movement in "man power" to the nation's sacrifices. That will be doubtless demonstrated elsewhere.

The following figures will perhaps be of interest as throwing some light upon the amount of work accomplished by our small staff:—

In dealing with the needs and difficulties of our societies over 10,000 letters have been written. In addition to this, upwards of 20,000 circulars have been issued. But, to estimate fairly the work involved, we may point out that, for example, in the case of military service and Regional Advisory Committees, as many as 100 cases were dealt with in one communication.

An immense amount of time and energy has been expended in presenting our case, in its many aspects, to the Government Departments concerned. Visits to the Ministries for this purpose have numbered not less than 600. Many societies have sent representatives or deputations to Westminster in order the better to explain their local differences. Over 200 such interviews have been given during the year. The formal deputations to Ministers and Controllors, specially arranged to deal with large questions of policy, and in which the committee as a whole took part, amounted to 20.

The questions which have stood out most prominently are dealt with in the following paragraphs, and it may be confidently stated that they represent not only a record year's work for the Parliamentary Committee, but also that a permanent mark has been made upon the State administration in many departments besides that of Food Control.

EXCESS PROFITS DUTY.

There has been no opportunity since the last Congress of actively pursuing our opposition to this tax or of promoting further ameliorating proposals. It was necessary, in the first instance, to give the amendment to the Finance Act of 1917 a chance to operate and to discover its effect upon the co-operative position. The circular issued to societies in March, 1918, set out in detail the working of the amendment, and this, together with the various small adjustments which have been obtained in administration, appear to have largely nullified the effect of the duty upon our societies.

The chief of these has been the admission by the Board of Inland Revenue that their original interpretation of the Act with respect to the allowance for increased capital was wrong. In a later letter, dated 13th April, 1918, the Board state, "that they have again had under consideration the question of the application of Section 41 (1) and (2) of the Finance (No. 2) Act, 1915, to co-operative societies assessed to Excess Profits Duty under Rule 10 of Part I. of the Fourth Schedule to that Act. The Board are now prepared to defer to the view that, in the application of those sub-sections, regard should be paid to any *de facto* increase or decrease of capital rather than to an increase or decrease of capital *per member*. Where an assessment has been made in accordance with the Board's previous view and duty has been paid in excess of that chargeable on the basis which the Board are now prepared to adopt, the Board's officers will be ready, on application from the society concerned, to adjust the matter by way of repayment or by deducting the amount otherwise repayable from a subsequent charge payable by the society."

As the Parliamentary Committee had, from the first imposition of the duty, urged this interpretation of the Act upon the Board of Inland Revenue, it is some satisfaction to know that they have now adopted that view. It is also a substantial relief to very many societies.

The report of the interview with the Chancellor of the Exchequer, summarised in our last report, was published in full with Mr. Bonar Law's approval.

At the time of writing the Budget proposals are still unknown, and the future course of this duty it is impossible to forecast, though most sane financial authorities are agreed that it cannot be long continued when the emergency for which it was created is past.

INCOME TAX.

The activities of our opponents have been very marked since the armistice, and it appears that in this, as in other matters, there is a strong desire to rush decisions while the war influence is still strong upon the people and while it is still "unpatriotic" to resist in the smallest degree the "militarism" of vested interests or Government administration.

We have, however, patiently awaited events, being constantly assured by replies to questions in Parliament, that the co-operative system in relation to Income Tax would shortly be put on its trial. In other words, that the long-promised Commission of Inquiry would soon deal with co-operative societies.

The Royal Commission has now been appointed. Three previous inquiries have been held, but they were all limited in their scope and dealt with specific grievances. The present Commission will, however, have an extremely comprehensive field. In addition to the hundred and one complications of forms, multiplicity of assessments, and unequal incidence, it will be able to take into account the ways in which the Income Tax affects the balance of prosperity in the community, the whole course of business, and, what is of immense importance at the present epoch, the relations between this country and the oversea communities of the Empire. If the League of Nations is to have its basis in the lives of the people, and apart from that its failure is assured, then the Commission just set up may easily strengthen the economic ties which will serve to bind the whole.

The terms of reference to the Commission are as follows :—

"To inquire into the Income Tax (including super tax) of the United Kingdom in all its aspects, including the scope, rates, and incidence of the tax; allowances and reliefs; administration, assessment, appeal, and collection; and prevention of evasion; and to report what alterations of law and practice are in their opinion necessary or desirable, and what effect they would have on rates of tax if it were necessary to maintain the total yield."

On the announcement of the Chancellor of the Exchequer of his intention to proceed to the appointment of the Commission, we approached him on the subject of co-operative representation on the Commission. He promptly refused our request on the ground that he had already refused other "trading organisations" up and down the country, and that our object could be achieved by submitting evidence to the Commission.

We at once pointed out that co-operative societies in this matter stand quite apart from the other trading organisations of the country in their constitution, purpose, and economic result. Further, that co-operators should have equal rights with other citizens and should not be placed in the position of defendants called upon to prove their innocence, as would be the result if

they were only to appear as witnesses. Some of our friends in Parliament were communicated with and asked to use the influence of their positions to secure our object. The movement is particularly indebted to Mr. W. Adamson, M.P., as leader of the Labour Party, and to Mr. A. E. Waterson, our own member, for the energy with which they followed and supported our appeal. As the result, we received a further letter from the Chancellor agreeing to appoint a representative on behalf of the co-operative societies, and asking Mr. H. J. May to undertake the task.

The committee expressed their satisfaction at the success of the representations made to the Chancellor, and unanimously confirmed the appointment of Mr. May as the representative of the co-operative movement.

MILITARY SERVICE.

Our last report on this question closes with the note that the Parliamentary Committee was seeking the opportunity of placing the position before the Ministry of National Service at an early date. This proved a more difficult task than was at first anticipated. Sir Auckland Geddes was a Minister without experience of Parliamentary government or any sort of administration in which the governed had an effective voice. It is putting the case mildly to say that he was devoid of democratic instincts or sympathies. It was not until the middle of June, and after continued pressure, that he was induced to receive a deputation. Meanwhile, we were faced with the difficulties which had been anticipated in our last report, attendant upon the steadily increasing demands of the military authorities for men for the Army.

The first trouble was the issue in April of the Order M.N.S. Form R. 49, which withdrew the exemption of a large number of men in a variety of trades and practically drafted them into the Army without further appeal. The action of local military representatives, over zealous for the cause, led to many of our societies' employees being enlisted who were not covered by the Order. Once in the Army it was practically impossible to get them out again. We, therefore, used every possible means to secure the proper interpretation of the Order by the Ministry, and to bring to their notice any contraventions by their agents in the various local areas.

After consultation with the Ministry, an urgent circular was issued to societies defining the scope of the Order, so far as it related to "shop assistants," and indicating that "buyers, managers, departmental or branch managers" were not decertified. This circular, based upon instructions officially issued by the Ministry, gave rise to many local disputes with the authorities, who were proceeding on the lines pointed out above to the detriment of our organisation. As quickly as the particulars were received from societies we took up their complaints with the Ministry.

Mr. Cecil Beck, M.P. (Parliamentary Secretary), was interviewed with respect to a batch of glaring instances, and he at once took steps to have the procedure regularised. In a number of cases men were thus retained in the service of the societies.

In response to our complaint that military service representatives exceeded

their proper powers, we were told that the Tribunals were equally the cause of men being called up in spite of the regulations. In view of the constitution of the latter bodies we had no reason to doubt this statement. We, therefore, made an effort to induce the Local Government Board to issue a further instruction to Tribunals to enforce the equitable administration of the Orders of the National Service Department.

The promise of compliance with our request was soon forthcoming, but it has not yet materialised. It may be well to point out here that this has been a common experience during the war with regard to other matters than military service. Again and again we have pressed for reform or adjustment of specific cases or in the general administration of Government regulations. We have pursued the matter along one line to the point of exhaustion, and have then been referred to another branch or section which dealt with the matter from a different angle. In spite of this, however, we have achieved many notable advantages which have reacted beneficially upon our societies and the community generally. The committee decided to renew its appeals to the Minister of National Service for a formal interview, at which the whole case for co-operative societies could be gone into.

The deputation was received at the Ministry of National Service on 12th June. Our case was stated at length and, while our complaints against the administration were detailed, we pointed out that for over two years we had been endeavouring to secure an arrangement with the Ministry which would clearly define "pivot" men and their position in relation to military service. Also, that, in the national interest, the essential men should be secured in their civil employment in such a way as would free our management committees from the continual anxiety of not knowing from day to day whether they would be able to "carry on" or would have to close up part or the whole of the business of their societies.

Sir Auckland Geddes dealt with the question in characteristic fashion, but ultimately offered as a solution of our difficulties the appointment of Regional Advisory Committees in connection with the eleven Regional Commissions which had just been set up. These committees would consider what men were indispensable and arrange for their retention. He suggested that a small committee should be formed that afternoon to draft the details of the scheme.

On being asked to arrange, as a matter of urgency, that pivot men under notice to join the Colours should be at once "protected," the Minister pointed out the enormous amount of work involved in examining the cases then under notice. He cited one region which he had just visited where he had seen 9,000 calling-up notices which it would be necessary to examine to attain our object. On being assured that we could supply the names of such men in 48 hours he agreed that they should be provisionally protected.

Another circular was immediately sent to the societies, and within the prescribed time a list of names of pivotal employees under notice to join the colours was handed in to the Ministry.

This scheme of provisional protection continued until the Regional Advisory Committees were properly constituted and at work. Up to 25th June, 711 replies had been received, 145 of which affected 188 men whose cases were forwarded to the Ministry. The remaining 566 replies were irrelevant to the circular.

Our sub-committee met at once, and the next day prepared the draft scheme with the officials of the Ministry. Its essential features were that twelve committees should be set up, corresponding to the eleven regional areas, with an extra one for Scotland, which, for this purpose, was divided into two regions. Each committee consisted of two co-operative representatives and two representatives of the Ministry of National Service. The powers of the committee were limited to the protection of men "engaged in or responsible for the retail distribution of food," as general managers, secretaries (or managing secretaries or accountant secretaries), departmental managers (or buyers) in food departments only, and branch managers. The inquiry was made retrospective to the 1st June, and the decisions of the committee did not deprive any man of his ordinary Tribunal rights.

The various committees were quickly formed by the Parliamentary Committee inviting representative men, as far as possible over military age, in each region. The plan followed was to select a manager and a member of a management committee. This method worked well, and the whole movement owes a debt of gratitude to the co-operative representatives who gave their services freely in an arduous and thankless task which called for frequent meetings and close application during a period of nearly two months.

Altogether, 5,292 cases of "pivot" men were submitted by our societies, the full particulars of each case being set out on duplicate forms specially prepared in conjunction with the Ministry to comply with the scheme. Of these, 4,170 cases were granted "protection." In 163 cases special recommendation of temporary relief were made, 446 were "not protected," and the remaining 513 were outside the jurisdiction of the committees.

The preparation, issue, receipt, examination, and despatch of forms to the various committees, and also the receipt and communication of decisions to the societies, constituted the most arduous and pressing piece of work which the committee has undertaken. Its calls upon the energies of the staff were extraordinary, and were accepted by them in the best spirit of war service.

Only two slight hitches occurred in the working of this scheme. The first was the action of one Regional Commissioner in refusing all forms which reached him after 6th July, which was the date fixed in the scheme. As there had been delay on the part of the Ministry in completing the scheme we claimed an extension of the time, and eventually secured the acceptance of all forms delivered to the regions by the 25th July. The second was the action of another Regional Commissioner in reviewing the decisions of the Advisory Committee to which he had been a party, within a few weeks of the promulgation of the decision. We took strong exception to this course, and

eventually the Ministry upheld our position and prevented any further review of cases.

Altogether, the results of this scheme were of advantage to the societies, and, fortunately, the armistice followed a little later, which considerably relieved a situation that threatened to again become acute.

DEMOBILISATION.

All the world knows that, following the armistice, the demand for the release of men from the Army became insistent and nearly universal. The plans made by the Government were soon pressed aside by the influence of certain sections of the administrative community, and something like chaos prevailed during several weeks.

At the beginning an attempt was made to demobilise men on something like a systematic plan, and it was left to the Ministry of Food to arrange for the release of a certain number of men in connection with retail food trades. The task of recommending specific cases was given to the Retail Grocers' Advisory Committee of the Ministry, on which we have four representatives. This committee again sub-divided the work, allocating a proportion of the recommendations for release to the co-operative movement, which, in turn, were dealt with by the co operative representatives on the committee.

We have every reason to believe that the movement was treated fairly under this plan but, by the time the committee had dealt with the very limited number of releases allotted to food trades, a new Order had been promulgated stating that from the 30th January no further applications for the demobilisation of pivot men or on special grounds could be considered.

Since that time it has been impracticable for us to take any special steps to secure the release of co-operative employees, as the conditions of release are now clearly laid down on grounds of the period and conditions of military service. The difficulty we have found in dealing with the question of demobilisation under any of the arrangements made by the Government is that whatever steps are taken, either locally or in London, with any of the Departments, the Commanding Officer at the Front has the final decision. He is able to turn down the recommendations of any Ministry on the simple ground that the man's detention is necessary in the national interest, or, to use the phrase which has now become current in military circles, that he is pivotal to the Army.

FOOD CONTROL.

GENERAL.

The infinite variety of the problems submitted for solution under this heading would suffice, if dealt with in detail, to fill a volume. Daily—sometimes hourly—we have been on the doorstep of the Ministry, and more often than not we have penetrated the interior of its many sections in search of redress for our societies. The method of dealing with urgent matters of food control through two sub-committees, wholesale and retail, has been continued during the past year. Thirty-five meetings have been held and a

large number of pressing questions dealt with between the meetings of the full committee. In some departments our presence has been welcomed as affording a clue to the unravelling of Gordian knots which the peculiar methods of our movement greatly simplified. In others our entrance was less welcome. The reason is not far to seek when one realises that our system of commerce menaces the profiteer and the speculator, whose interests have not been wholly neglected in the staffing of the Ministry, and who naturally regard the increasing influence of co-operators as undesirable.

It must, however, be frankly admitted that co-operation has made considerable headway since the Emergency Conference at Westminster in October, 1917. Not only has the Government realised its tactical mistake in ignoring the co-operative movement in the early days of the war, but the use and effectiveness of its organisation and principles have been recognised as a factor to be counted upon in the administration.

THE CONSUMERS' COUNCIL.

Not the least of the means in bringing about that result has been the establishment of the Consumers' Council. It should be remembered that that body is, as it was originally designed by Mr. Clynes to be, representative of the two main sections of organised workers—co-operation and trade-unionism. Its membership up to 80 per cent is directly nominated by the central organisations of the two movements. The co-operative delegation of six is directly nominated by the Parliamentary Committee, and is thus responsible to the movement for its share in the great work which the Council has accomplished.

It has formed a much closer and stronger link between the Parliamentary Committee and the Ministry than we had any hope of effecting eighteen months ago. The direct result of our interview with the Prime Minister following the Emergency Conference was the appointment of our Chairman, Mr. T. W. Allen, to an honorary position in the Ministry, from which he could keep the Controller informed of co-operative developments, and, at the same time, place at his disposal the organisation and experience of the movement. We also secured the appointment of Mr. T. Killon to the Orders Committee, a most important section of the Ministry's work, corresponding in its functions to those of the Army Council in its supervision of policy as expressed in the stream of orders and instructions which formed the basis of control. But the appointment of the Consumers' Council went a great step beyond this in providing an advisory, almost a supervisory, body regularly sitting at the Ministry and surveying the whole field of operations.

Undoubtedly, the greatest influence has been exerted through the medium of the Consumers' Council which, in the light of events, may be described as a stroke of genius on the part of Mr. Clynes. The work of that Council has established the rights of the consumer on a basis which has never before been recognised by the State, and has done something to give the economic side of domestic politics its proper place in national administration. Incidentally, the relations between co-operation and the general Labour movement have

been brought closer than ever before, and it is to be hoped will result in a much fuller appreciation of their mutual dependence.

Mr. T. W. Allen, who was originally appointed deputy-chairman of the Council by Mr. Clynes, has continued in that position at the special request of Mr. G. H. Roberts on his appointment as Food Controller.

Our representations to the Ministry on a hundred and one important matters were, instead of standing as the isolated demands of an outside organisation, automatically carried on into the internal administration, with the added advantage that the men who discussed them round the table of the Parliamentary Committee were also the men who, at the Council table of the Ministry, discussed them as part of the internal policy, and made their official recommendations to the Food Controller accordingly.

In this report we must be content with this summary of the working and effect of the Consumers' Council. We have made an attempt to summarise its activities and present a digest here, but have abandoned the task as being beyond the bounds of an ordinary congress report. Suffice it to say that every conceivable aspect of the food control problem has been the subject of its recommendations, and that the great work which Lord Rhondda initiated, and that Mr. Clynes so admirably carried on, has received a new impulse and direction from the Consumers' Council.

RATIONING.

Throughout the year the Parliamentary Committee has lost no opportunity of pressing upon the Ministry the need for specific reforms in the methods of rationing. In May a long memorandum was received from the Ministry dealing with a list of ten specific proposals which we had submitted to the Food Controller. It will, perhaps, be sufficient to quote a sentence to show that the efforts of the committee were not in vain. The passage reads—"Now that the national rationing of essential foodstuffs has either been adopted or is in immediate contemplation, I am to take the opportunity of pointing out to your committee how closely the measures taken by the Ministry of Food have in fact followed the lines suggested by your committee"—three months before. Then follows a detailed statement of the action taken by the Ministry on the lines of our proposals. Still later, another set of proposals was drawn up for the improvement of rationing methods, and submitted to Mr. Clynes.

The resolution of the Liverpool Congress on the "datum period" was duly forwarded to the Food Controller, and we received the assurance that the system of basing supplies on the registered customers would be adopted as early as possible, and of course that result was eventually arrived at generally in matters of food control. It is worth noting that the co-operative movement has the honour of being the first, through its Parliamentary Committee, to propose to the Government the necessity of general compulsory rationing in the interests of the whole community.

TRANSFER OF REGISTRATION.

Bound up with the "datum period" was the question of transfer of registration. While retailers were only able to obtain supplies on the datum

period system, it was impossible to secure freedom of registration and purchase. The local Food Control Committee arbitrarily transferred customers to retailers lucky enough to secure the supplies. This method, of course, opened the way for penalising our societies and their members.

Having secured registration, we had to take the next step of making that registration free. It has been a long and tedious process; the department naturally preferring the line of least resistance which the datum period afforded. Our representations to the Food Controller on this question could not, however, be gainsaid, and we were led to believe that an opportunity of free re-registration would occur in July.

As the arrangements of the Ministry developed, however, it became apparent that the opportunity would only be a modified one, bound by the condition that a transfer should only be allowed to customers desiring to return to their usual retailer. We at once, and before the issue of final instructions by the Ministry, took this point up strongly with the department. We pointed out that such a condition opened the way to endless disputes with the local Food Control Committees, and offered the opportunity of arbitrary decisions which would be strongly resented. The official reason given for refusing our demand was the enormous amount of additional work which would be thrown upon the department and the local Food Control Committees.

The order was, therefore, issued that transfers would be allowed on the above condition during the first week in July. We circularised our societies and made the position as clear as possible, but with only partial success, as, in many cases, the essential condition was ignored and the reason given for the transfer only invited refusal. In the result, however, what we had forecasted to the Ministry actually happened, and co-operators, whose applications were in order, were arbitrarily refused transfers by local Food Committees. During the next few months we spent much time and energy in trying to bring these local authorities to book, but without very satisfactory results. The department either could not, or would not, adjust the differences, and again held out the hope of an absolutely free re-registration, which we had continued to urge. This was delayed by the preparations for the issue of the new ration books, and was finally provided during the fortnight beginning 20th January and ending 1st February. At the same time, the Food Controller announced that he hoped no further ration books would be required, though the final decision as to the discontinuance of rationing would be largely dependent upon the progress made in obtaining increased supplies during the first few months of the present year.

A circular of inquiry has been addressed to the societies on the effect of the re-registration, and the replies to several questions have been tabulated. They show a real advantage to the co-operative movement, as will be apparent from the following summary :—

Number of Societies replying	426
Number of New Members enrolled during the re-registration period	19,033
Number of Additional Registrations for any article of food	982,289

CO-OPERATIVE REPRESENTATIVES ON GOVERNMENT COMMITTEES.

Appointed during the past year and nominated by the Parliamentary Committee.

Mr. H. Elsey	Orders Committee (vice Mr. T. Killon, resigned).
Mr. W. Lobb	Egg Products Advisory.
Mr. T. Parkinson	Wheat Commission.
Mr. A. E. Threadgill	Oils and Fats Advisory
Mr. W. Swain	Canned Meats Advisory.
Mr. W. E. Dudley	Raw Fat Melters' Association.
Mr. G. Goodenough	} Retail Grocers' Advisory.
Mr. A. B. Weir	
Mr. W. Bradshaw	
Mr. T. Dykes	
Mr. N. E. Smith	} Central Milk (Wholesale).
Mr. Wm Bethell	
Mr J. E. Green	Soap Supplies Board.
Mr. H. J. L. Dunlop	Crushing and Refining Industries.
Mr. W. M. Scott	Bacon Advisory (vice Mr. Rowatt, resigned).
Mr. W. H. Watkins	} Travelling Milk Commission.
Mr. Geo. Wilson	
Mr. A. B. Weir	Central Meat Advisory.

ROYAL COMMISSION ON INCOME TAX.

Mr. H. J. May.

BOARD OF TRADE COMMISSION ON THE REVISION OF IMPORT RESTRICTIONS.

Mr. W. E. Dudley.

REPRESENTATION ON LOCAL FOOD CONTROL COMMITTEES.

The question of co-operative representation on Local Food Control Committees has been the subject of agitation with the Ministry since the days of Lord Devonport's control. It will be remembered that we endeavoured to secure from him an assurance to the Swansea Congress that direct representation should be provided for in the original constitution of these committees. His statement was so qualified as to be valueless for our purpose, and, in the event, it was found that we were left to the tender mercies of committees largely composed of our trade rivals. To secure adequate recognition has, therefore, been one long conflict with authority.

Lord Rhondda issued strongly worded advices to these committees to include representative co-operators in their constitution, but failed to make their appointment obligatory. His successor was even more emphatic, but still fell short of the point of placing our movement on an equal footing with the Labour movement, which had the right of direct representation. Our case was continually pressed, and specific cases were taken up with the Ministry. Many were investigated and some were adjusted. Ultimately, however, we

achieved the position laid down in the amended regulations for the re-appointment of committees in November last that, where any food trader was included in the membership of the committee, a direct co-operative representative must also be included. After the reconstruction of the committees, inquiries were made by circular to our societies, and, from the replies received, it would appear that a reasonable representation has now been accorded to the movement.

Number of societies replying	738
Number of societies represented on L.F.C.C.'s.....	606
Number of representatives	1,345
Number of food traders	1,111

BREAD AND FLOUR PRICES.

Excellent work has been done by our representative upon this special advisory committee. From time to time most useful data has been obtained from our societies. The Ministry has manifested its satisfaction at the assistance thus afforded in arriving at equitable decisions on this question, and it is not too much to say that co-operative bakery organisation and policy have had a considerable influence in retaining the price of bread and flour at the present modest level.

SUGAR AND THE SWEETMEATS ORDER.

The question of sugar distribution and supplies, which was one of the first subjects to engage our attention, as it was the first article of food to come under Government control, has not called for any drastic action during the past year. At the time of writing the Ministry assert that the supplies of sugar are steadily improving. Already manufacturers are receiving 100 per cent of their 1915 purchases.

The restrictions imposed on the sale of sweets by the Sweetmeats Order gave rise to considerable heart-burnings amongst co-operators in common with many private traders. The policy of the Ministry, which was mainly directed to protecting small traders who depended upon the trade in sweetmeats for their livelihood, aroused many protests from societies. Another reason for the policy was the desirability of retaining, as far as possible, the facilities for small sweet purchases to children in poor districts to whom sugar is essential, and who would be likely to suffer most from the general rationing of sugar.

The committee considered carefully the whole case for our societies, and several interviews were arranged with the Ministry. Small modifications were made in the Order, but, in the main, its provisions stand as originally drafted, and the committee were satisfied that, on the whole, it provided a reasonable solution of a question difficult to adjust. The supplies available were easily disposable in the movement, but an arrangement was made by the Ministry that any surplus over the rationed supplies of societies should be available for the use of our soldiers in the field.

The Restriction of Sale Order was revoked on 1st March, leaving all traders free to sell sweets if they so desired. The control of maximum prices of chocolates and other sweetmeats will be withdrawn on 1st June.

ILLEGAL AGREEMENTS.

One very useful piece of work has been the action taken which resulted in the prosecution of two firms of preserve manufacturers, who sought to obtain an agreement from certain societies that, as a condition of receiving supplies of jam and preserves during the war, they should pledge themselves to purchase a minimum quantity of those goods for a period of five years after the war. The committee regarded this proposal, not only as a breach of the law, but as a distinct menace to the liberty of co-operative societies, and they at once took steps to bring the offenders to account. The Ministry of Food readily took up the cases, and in one the firm was heavily fined. In the other, the charge was dismissed on a legal point, but is, we understand, to be taken to the Divisional Court. It is rather remarkable to note that the societies which were being made the victims of this illegal process and prejudicial treatment, so far from thanking the committee, protested against the prosecution, and at first hampered the action of both the committee and the Ministry. In a third case, which, however, was actually first in order of date, the firm apologised to the Ministry when asked for an explanation, and gave a promise not to repeat the offence.

LORD RHONDDA.

On the death of Lord Rhondda the Parliamentary Committee sincerely joined in the national manifestation of sorrow at the loss which the country sustained. During his last illness a message of appreciation of his great services, and his sympathetic attitude towards the movement, was sent to him by the committee, and received a graceful acknowledgment. At his funeral our Chairman, Mr. T. W. Allen, attended to demonstrate the respect of co-operators to the memory of a true man and a great administrator, while our secretary represented us at the Memorial Service at Westminster.

THE RIGHT HON. J. R. CLYNES, M.P.

We have, on several occasions, testified our admiration of the services of Mr. Clynes, both as a faithful lieutenant of Lord Rhondda and as his capable and worthy successor. Those expressions have always been tinged with pride in the fact that he was "one of ourselves"—a Labour Minister who made good in the great crisis. The committee offered Mr. Clynes sincere congratulations on his appointment, and supported in every way possible his efforts at the Ministry. They have received ample evidence of his satisfaction with their support.

DEMobilISATION OF FOOD CONTROL.

Immediately following the signing of the armistice a strong movement was on foot to effect the demobilisation of the Ministry of Food. One might go further and say that on the death of Lord Rhondda a desperate effort was made in certain quarters to divert its direction into a more militarist section of the Government administration. Within the Ministry itself there was, amongst those who had been drawn from private trading organisations to give their expert aid to the nation, not only a desire to return to their normal

ways and walks in life, but also a keen desire to resume the free play of commerce, or, in a word, the old competitive system. To-day the inspired voices in the *Times* assert that there is little left to require a separate Ministry and that the fragments which remain could easily be handed over to other departments.

In November last, however, the danger to the consumer of any sudden withdrawal of control and the chaos which would inevitably follow, determined the committee to take immediate action. A special conference of the committee was held to consider the whole question, and it was decided to ask Mr. Clynes to receive a deputation on the subject. The interview took place at the Ministry early in December. The deputation expressed the alarm which the committee, as representing the movement, felt at the premature proposals of demobilisation. They asked Mr. Clynes to define the policy of the Government on the question of control, both as to supplies for the army and the civil population. The present system of rationing and general control had been developed gradually during two years, and it did not seem to the committee possible that things could return to their normal level in much less than a similar period. But what was of the gravest importance was that they should have some assurance from the Government as to the holding or controlling of supplies. The Government should at least take steps to ensure that the consumer would suffer no worse conditions of food supply in peace than in war. The Government should also control retail prices for some time to come, even after the withdrawal of control of imports and wholesale supplies. All possible steps ought to be taken to prevent the exploitation of consumers. The operations of the Ministry had taught the private traders the value of combination, and they would adapt co-operative methods without the altruistic principles which were the basis of our movement. The deputation asked for the assurances of the Minister of Food on these points.

Mr. Clynes, in reply, observed that co-operators were amongst the first in the country to propose Government control, and they should have credit for their action. They were now the first to suggest that the State should not hastily abandon control. He admitted the operation of influences in the Ministry in the latter direction, but submitted that those influences were not traceable in the decisions of the Ministry. He was not unmindful of the difficulties underlying the questions raised by the deputation, and his views, which accorded generally with those just submitted to him, had been expressed in a separate memorandum to the War Cabinet some weeks before. It was not possible for him to say what would be done, but he could give an assurance that, without unduly hampering his successor in the Ministry, those views should be again pressed upon the Government before his retirement from office. He took pride in the success of British food administration during the war, which had been second to no other country, and he hoped that the Ministry in its most useful aspects would continue apart from party political influence.

The Parliamentary Committee were well satisfied with the attitude of Mr. Clynes, and steps were taken to bring the question before the Consumers' Council, which, in its turn, passed resolutions in the sense of our representa-

tions. A special sub-committee of the Council was also appointed which drew up an important report on the whole question. That report was submitted in due course to Mr. G. H. Roberts after his appointment as Food Controller, and secured his ready adherence to its principles. At the time of writing control is being steadily relaxed, and, so far as rationing and the severer restrictions are concerned, is being withdrawn.

THE HOUSING QUESTION.

The proposals of the Government with regard to housing, and especially the provision for Public Utility Societies and Housing Trusts at present before Parliament, have received the attention of the committee. They have asked that co-operative societies—whose constitution necessarily conforms to that proposed for Public Utility Societies, seeing that the latter are to be registered under the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts—should, *ipso facto*, become Public Utility Societies, subject to such amendments of rules as may be necessary to give co-operative societies the powers provided in the Bill. The matter is still the subject of negotiation with the department promoting the Bill.

It is quite possible that the clause relating to Public Utility Societies will be strongly opposed by the Labour Party on the grounds of the opportunities it will give to small syndicates to exploit the public as well as its funds. In the present constitution of the House of Commons reforming influences are at a discount, and the Bill will probably go through on the present lines. In that case, the Parliamentary Committee intend to make the utmost possible use of it through the co-operative movement, and, of course, on lines that will be in accord with the professed intentions of its promoters.

NATIONAL INDUSTRIAL CONFERENCE.

The co-operative movement was invited by the Ministry of Labour to be represented at the National Industrial Conference, held at the Central Hall, Westminster, on 27th February. This conference, which was convened by the Government to deal with the whole question of industrial unrest, was composed of representatives of employers and employees of almost every industry in the country. The Minister of Labour presided, and the Prime Minister, supported by an array of Ministers and Government Departmental Chiefs, was present throughout the proceedings. Mr. Lloyd George adopted the method of co-operative congresses, and replied on the whole case at the end of the discussion. His pronouncement was an important one, but too lengthy for inclusion in this report. The immediate result of the conference was the appointment of a strong Joint Committee to draw up proposals for submission to a future conference. The Parliamentary Committee was represented by the Chairman (Mr. T. W. Allen), Mr W. T. Charter, and the Secretary.

The second conference was held on the 4th April, when the report of the Special Joint Committee was submitted. The discussions, which lasted the whole day, were very one-sided, the employers for the most part remaining silent. The report which was eventually adopted marks a very great

advance in the achievement of the Charter of Labour, perhaps the greatest in modern times. It provides for the establishment of a legal eight hours day in all industries, with the power of varying the normal hours in proper cases by mutual consent; national minimum rates of wage; these minimum rates to be determined by a Joint Commission; the extension of Trade Boards for the less organised trades; the establishment of a permanent National Industrial Council to prevent unemployment and provide maintenance for the workers in unemployment, sickness, and old age. At the close of the discussion the following resolution was unanimously adopted:—

That this Joint National Industrial Conference of representatives of the employers and trade unions welcomes the report of the Provisional Joint Committee, and agrees to submit it for the acceptance of its constituent organisations immediately the Government officially declare their readiness to proceed at once with the legislative and other steps necessary to carry the report into effect. That the Provisional Joint Committee remain in being until the National Industrial Council and Standing Committee have been brought into operation.

HOUSEHOLD FUEL AND LIGHTING ORDER.

This order, which was issued in June last, was one of the most complex instructions issued to the public during the war, and it is doubtful whether the officials responsible for its administration up and down the country have even yet mastered the details of its provisions. The committee at once set to work to assimilate its main points, and were soon convinced that it would need closely watching if co-operative societies were not to suffer under its operation. They quickly approached the Coal Controller by deputation, and urged an increase of supplies, at the same time demanding co-operative representation on local Coal Committees. The department promised larger supplies and, in some cases, the promise has been kept. Largely owing, however, to our small organisation or coal distribution, we have not been able to exercise the same pressure as, for example, in the case of sugar or bread. The result is that the requirement of the Controller, that representation should only be given in cases where the society distributed one-fifth of the supply in the area, has been maintained. Where that condition existed representation has generally been given. In September we again approached the Controller by deputation, and received assurances as to the good purpose of the department, as well as evidence of the difficulties in the way of conceding all our demands.

In November we issued an inquiry to societies as to (a) their requirements to meet the demands of registered customers, (b) the amount allocated to the society on the datum period, (c) the proportion actually received, and (d) the usual sources of supply. This circular produced a rather remarkable result, which is worthy of more than passing notice. In the first place, only 288 societies sent replies to the questions. The figures given showed that the total supplies of these societies for the period equalled about 75 per cent of the needs of their registered customers. Of these actual supplies only 23

per cent was purchased from co-operative sources, the remaining 77 per cent being obtained from outside merchants. From the point of view of co-operative purchases the figures speak for themselves. The net result of the inquiry was disappointing, and hardly strengthened our case with the department.

The request for rationing supplies on the basis of registration of customers was met by the Assistant Controller with the rather frank and naive statement that the machinery did not exist to enable our demand to be carried out. While we have no triumphs to record in this matter, every effort has been made to secure equitable treatment, and the immediate adjustment of urgent cases has been not altogether without success.

CO-OPERATIVE PARLIAMENTARY REPRESENTATION COMMITTEE.

GENERAL.

The work of this committee only covers a period of four months of the year under review, during which arrangements were being made for the election of the new committee decided upon at the Liverpool Congress. Only a brief summary of its achievements is, therefore, necessary.

Seven meetings were held, and a good deal of correspondence on the formation and powers of Local Councils was dealt with; representatives were sent to various districts to expound the scheme and report on proposed local constitution, constituencies, and candidates for contests at the General Election.

When the committee handed over its work to the newly elected body at the beginning of August, there were 66 Local Councils registered under the scheme, 29 constituencies had been placed upon the provisional list, and 20 candidates had been regularly nominated for the consideration of the committee.

JOINT COMMITTEE ON REPRESENTATION.

Three meetings were held of the Joint Committee representing the Trades Union Congress Parliamentary Committee, the Labour Party, and this committee. Definite proposals as to the constituencies to be contested by co-operative candidates at the General Election, and in which the Labour Party would agree to withhold candidates to facilitate co-operative candidatures, were submitted and considered. In the result, twelve constituencies were agreed upon as suitable for this object.

The nomenclature of co-operative candidates was also considered, and our committee held to the position, as laid down at Swansea Congress, that all candidates run under the auspices of the co-operative movement, with financial assistance from its Central Fund, must stand as co-operative candidates without any party complication.

ORGANISATION.

This committee had made the proposal, as early as February, 1918, that six organisers should be appointed to organise co-operative societies for election purposes. The appointment of three was subsequently agreed to, and advertisements were issued in the co-operative and general press.

In view of the new constitution no appointments were actually made by this committee, but the applications were provisionally dealt with and handed over to the new committee, who accepted the responsibility of the advertisement. The same procedure was followed in the case of the advertisement for an assistant secretary, the replies to which were handed on and considered in the appointment of the secretary to the new committee.

THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

The resolution passed at the Liverpool Congress supporting the principle of a League of Nations was sent to the various leaders and suitably acknowledged by the Prime Minister, Viscount Grey, Lord Lansdowne, and the Right Hon. G. N. Barnes, M.P.

THE NATIONAL REPRESENTATION COMMITTEE.

The Parliamentary Committee, in accordance with the new constitution, appointed Messrs. T. W. Allen, W. Gallacher, and W. H. Watkins as its representatives. The work was formally handed over to the committee at its first meeting held at Manchester on 6th August, 1918. Mr. H. Campbell has since been appointed *vice* Mr. W. Gallacher (resigned).

T. W. ALLEN, Chairman.

H. J. MAY, Secretary.

RESOLUTIONS.

I.—FOOD CONTROL.

That, in view of the great services rendered during the war to all the nations by organised co-operation, which has proved itself to be the best means of securing the equitable distribution of necessities at reasonable prices, this Congress calls upon the British Government to take all necessary steps to secure the continuance and extension of the application of the co-operative principle to its plans of economic reconstruction; and, further, that the reforms automatically secured by the operation of D.O.R.A.—especially those relating to sales by net weight or measure, standards, and tests of quality, exhibition of prices—should at once receive permanent legislative sanction.

II.—MINISTRY OF FOOD.

That this Congress records its appreciation of the services rendered to the community by the Ministry of Food during the war. It recognises the enormous difficulties under which the Ministry has laboured, but views with grave concern the proposal to abolish the Ministry and to distribute its functions amongst the older Departments of the State. The Congress therefore strongly urges upon the Government the necessity of continuing the Ministry as a permanent Department charged with the maintenance of

proper and adequate supplies, and such other measures, essential alike in war or peace, as may be necessary to prevent profiteering and the exploitation of consumers.

A resolution on 'Conscription,' adopted also by this committee, will be found at the end of Report of the National Co-operative Representation Committee. (See page 190.)

23. RECONSTITUTION OF THE JOINT PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE.

The following resolution on the reconstitution of the Joint Parliamentary Committee was adopted at the last Congress, viz.:—

"That the Parliamentary interests of the Co-operative movement as regards administration and legislation should be delegated to a committee responsible to the Co-operative Union, and that the two Wholesale Societies and any other co-operative organisation, of which the Congress shall approve, and which is concerned with the work of the Parliamentary Committee, shall appoint special representatives on the committee, and that the Central Board present a report within six months for circulation to the sections and district associations in sufficient time for consideration previous to next year's Congress as to the number and method of election of the committee, and the organisations which should be represented thereon."

The Central Board of the Co-operative Union has in accordance with the foregoing resolution carefully considered the whole question, and now submits the following recommendations:—

- (a) That the Joint Parliamentary Committee should be composed of eleven persons, to be appointed as follows:—Six by the Central Board of the Co-operative Union, two by the English Co-operative Wholesale Society, one by the Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society, one by the Co-operative Productive Federation, and one appointed jointly by the Secretaries' and Managers' Associations.
- (b) That the representatives of the Central Board be nominated by the Sectional Boards at their first meeting after Congress, and that a voting paper be then sent to each member of the Central Board.
- (c) That each organisation represented on the Joint Parliamentary Committee be responsible for paying the expenses of its own representatives in attending the meetings of the committee.
- (d) That all other expenses incurred by the committee be allocated as follows, viz.:—For the present, the sum of £100 be paid by the Co-operative Productive Federation, the balance to be paid as to three-fifths by the Co-operative Union Limited, and two-fifths by the English and Scottish Wholesale Societies in the proportions of two-thirds by the English Co-operative Wholesale Society and one-third by the Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society.

- (e) That we recommend the operation of the scheme now outlined be deferred until after the war, and that during the interval the committee as at present constituted be continued.

At the time of issuing the recommendations the Central Board were unanimously of the opinion that no change should be made during the period of the war, as at that time the work of the Parliamentary Committee was mainly in connection with trading and food control matters, and could best be dealt with by the present machinery remaining undisturbed.

RESOLUTION.

That the foregoing recommendations for the constitution of the Joint Parliamentary Committee be approved, and Congress instructs the Central Board to proceed with the formation of the committee.

24. NATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE REPRESENTATION COMMITTEE.

REPORT TO CONGRESS.

At the Liverpool Congress a new Constitution was adopted under which the work of the Central Parliamentary Representation Committee was transferred to the National Co-operative Representation Committee. The National Committee was later constituted as follows:—

Representing the Sectional Boards :

Midland	Mr. C. A. W. Saxton.	Northern	Mr. G. Riddle.
North-Western .	Mr. G. Goodenough.	Scottish	Mr. G. Wilson.
	Mr. W. Gregory.	South-Western .	Mrs. M. Found.
Southern	Mr. S. Foulger.	Western	Mr. D. Evans.

Representing Subscribing Societies :

Midland	Mr. F. Spires.	Northern	Mr. E. J. Smith.
North-Western .	Mr. F. Denman.	Scottish	Mr. A. M. Welsh.
	Mr. E. Whiteley.	South-Western .	Mr. J. Marks.
Southern	Mr. C. W. Newbold.	Western	Mr. A. J. Burlton.

Representing Other Bodies :

Central Education Committee: Mrs. M. A. Gasson.

Co-operative Wholesale Society: Mr. T. W. Allen.

Mr. J. W. King.

Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society: Mr. H. Campbell.

Joint Parliamentary Committee: Mr. J. Bardner.

Mr. W. H. Watkins.

English Women's Guild Mrs. E. A. Hood.

Scottish Women's Guild: Mrs. Campbell.

National Men's Guild: Mr. W. Chas. Potter.

Productive Federation: Mr. H. J. Potter.

Secretary: Mr. S. F. Perry.

The following were appointed as an Executive Committee:—Mrs. Found, Messrs. Saxton, Goodenough, Whiteley, Welsh, Allen, and Watkins.

During the year four meetings of the old Committee were held, four of the newly-elected National Committee, and eleven of the Executive Committee. The National Committee had its first meeting on 8th August, 1918, and Mr. T. W. Allen was unanimously appointed chairman of the committee. It was a matter of general regret that, on account of his heavy duties, he found himself unable to accept the chairmanship. Mr. W. Gallacher presided at the executive and general committee meetings until 17th September, when Mr. W. H. Watkins was appointed as chairman.

GENERAL.

In the year 1918, 563 societies became affiliated to the scheme for securing political representation, and subscriptions to the amount of £7,139. 17s. 4d. were received, which includes £1,000 and £500 subscribed respectively by the English and Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Societies; also a sum of £12. 10s. 0d. was received from individual subscribers. The total income from all sources (including bank interest) was £7,352. 19s. 11d. Though the response to the appeal for affiliation and subscriptions has been good, the committee desire to urge upon all societies the necessity of becoming affiliated to the National scheme and subscribing to its fund.

OFFICE AND STAFF.

One of the first duties of the newly-appointed National Committee was to secure an office in London, and they eventually selected 19, Buckingham Street, Strand. After advertisements had been issued and applications invited, Mr. S. F. Perry was appointed secretary. Later, Mrs. D. Taylor and Messrs. S. Rees and D. C. Howie were appointed organisers. The work of establishing the office and creating the necessary machinery has proceeded smoothly. The organisers have been fully employed in (a) helping to consolidate the forces in the ten constituencies contested under the auspices of the committee, (b) visiting societies and inviting them to become subscribers to the National Fund, and (c) assisting societies in forming district or local political councils, and adopting those methods of organisation by which alone Parliamentary and municipal election success can be achieved.

GENERAL ELECTION, 1918.

The National Co-operative Representation Committee had no sooner been elected than they had to face a General Election under remarkable and abnormal conditions. With the end of the great world tragedy came the desire of the Coalition Government for a further lease of power, and all the influence of the press and of the political organisations favourable to the Coalition policy were used to bring about this object. The cry of "Support the Government which won the War" made a splendid election call, especially when supported by its companion, "Every vote against the Coalition is a vote given to the Hun." The results are well known, and,

at a time when Europe, purified through suffering, has emerged out of four and a half years' strife and bloodshed with the desire of establishing a real democracy, our own country has returned to power one of the strongest combinations of vested interests of recent years.

So far as our own particular party is concerned, the committee had to deal with two aspects of the election—(a) To take all possible steps to secure direct representation in the House of Commons; and (b) to organise the co-operative vote in the constituencies where no co-operative candidates were nominated in support of those candidates who were in favour of the principles of co-operation.

After careful consideration, approval was given for the nomination of candidates in the following ten constituencies, viz.:—Bradford, Hillsborough, Kettering, King's Norton, Leeds, Mossley, Sparkbrook, Clackmannan, Kilmarnock, and Paisley.

In view of what happened all over the country, the movement has every reason to be encouraged by the result. Kettering has achieved the honour of returning the first "Co-operative" member to the House of Commons, Mr. A. E. Waterson being given a majority of 2,538 over the higher of his two opponents. At Paisley, Clackmannan, and Bradford our candidates also polled well.

The following table shows the results in the ten constituencies —

KETTERING.

Electorate, 34,624—Women, 13,747.

A. E. WATERSON (Co-operative)	10299
Capt. BUXTON (Co. L.)	7761
Lieut.-General FERGUSON (Nat. Party)	4489
Majority	2538

PAISLEY.

Electorate, 38,507—Women, 14,555.

Sir J. McCALLUM (Lib.)	7542
J. M. BIGGAR (Co-operative)	7436
J. TAYLOR (Coal.)	7201
Majority	106

KILMARNOCK.

Electorate, 32,329

Hon. A. SHAW (Co. L.)	13568
P. MALCOLM (Co-operative)	6652
Majority	6916

CLACKMANNAN AND EAST STIRLING.

Electorate, 31,910.

Major GLYN (Co. U.)	6771
H. J. MAY (Co-operative)	5753
Major CHAPPLE (Lib.)	5040
<hr/>	
Majority	1018

BRADFORD (SOUTH).

Electorate, 41,499—Women, 18,142.

Lieut.-Col. WILLEY (Co. L.)	11983
W. HIRST (Co-operative)	8182
G. MUFF (Ind. Lib.)	6611
<hr/>	
Majority	3801

BIRMINGHAM (KING'S NORTON).

Electorate, 27,117—Women, 10,550.

Sir H. AUSTIN (Co. U.)	8809
T. HACKETT (Co-operative)	4917
N. BIRKETT (L.)	2435
<hr/>	
Majority	3892

SHEFFIELD (HILLSBOROUGH).

Electorate, 30,084—Women, 13,769.

A. NEAL (Co. L.)	11171
A. LOCKWOOD (Co-operative)	4050
<hr/>	
Majority	7121

LEEDS (CENTRAL).

Electorate, 43,496—Women, 17,671.

R ARMITAGE (Co. L.)	11474
Captain TERRY (Ind.)	2634
JOSEPH SMITH (Co-operative)	2146
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Majority	*9328

* Against Co-operative Candidate

LANCASHIRE (MOSSLEY).

Electorate, 40,374—Women, 16,662.

A HOPKINSON (Co. L.)	16158
W. H. BROWN (Co-operative)	5227
<hr/>	
Majority	10931

BIRMINGHAM (SPARKBROOK).

Electorate, 37,123.

C. L. S. AMERY (Co. U.)	15225
F. SPIRES (Co-operative)	3014
J. C. HURST (Lib.)	1251

Majority 12211

Where there were no co-operative candidates, test questions drawn up by the committee were submitted to the candidates nominated by other parties, and local societies and councils were urged to organise the co-operative vote as outlined above. The response was splendid. To take effective action under such conditions often needs more courage than to support our own candidate. From all parts of the country reports were received of the remarkable way in which co-operators answered the call. Meetings were held, circulars issued to members urging them to vote for the favourable candidates, shops were used as billposting stations, vehicles placed at the candidates' disposal, and an organised canvass undertaken.

EXPERIENCE GAINED

Arising out of all these activities many points have emerged which should greatly assist the committee in their future operations. They are set out below.

Finance.—After full consideration of all the circumstances the committee decided that two-thirds of the cost of each contest should be borne by the Central Fund and the remainder by the local societies in the contested constituency. The total cost to the committee for the ten constituencies was £4,434. 6s. 4d. All our candidates secured the number of votes necessary to entitle them to the return of the £150 deposited with the Returning Officer. Owing to the prevailing abnormal prices, printing and stationery have been expensive items. It would also appear possible to increase the number of candidates by well-considered financial adjustment even with the same sum total of subscriptions, and by effective local organisation, expenses in the actual election might be considerably reduced. The payment of two-thirds of local election expenses from the Central Fund may not necessarily be continued, although a section of our members are inclined to object to the local societies having to provide one-third, they having the view that the whole amount should be borne by the Central Fund. With regard to the fact that only about half of our societies have yet subscribed to the Parliamentary Fund, a definite campaign has begun in persuading societies who have not yet fallen into line to take up political representation, and the results have been most encouraging.

Organisation—Steps have been taken to see that in each of the contested constituencies the organisation established shall be maintained and improved. In addition, societies in all areas have been urged to form district or local political councils, so that the work of building up an effective

political organisation may be completed. Model rules have been drawn up for their guidance. At present 146 political councils have been registered with the National Committee. The committee are strongly of opinion that sound local organisations should be established wherever possible and be kept in direct touch with the National Co-operative Representation Committee.

Candidates and Constituencies.—With a view to avoiding a clashing of interests, the work of the Joint Committee of the Labour Party, the Parliamentary Committee of the Trades Union Congress, and ourselves should, it is considered, be developed. Mainly through the efforts of this Joint Committee conflict was prevented and co-ordination and combined effort were possible in the ten constituencies contested by co-operative candidates. The development of this mutual confidence is essential to our ultimate success. The committee are of the opinion that the appointment of joint committees of the Progressive forces should be encouraged for action in local elections; but it should be made clear that after it has been agreed that the co-operators should contest an election, the final selection of the candidate must be left to the Co-operative Political Council, subject, of course, in Parliamentary contests to endorsement by the National Committee.

Registration of Voters.—The work of registration should be taken in hand by every political council and means afforded whereby co-operators may obtain information and advice as to their right of inclusion on the Register. In order that this work should be successfully carried out, the committee suggest the appointment of full-time officials by the district or local councils whenever possible. In this direction, what may be beyond the scope of a single society or political council, may be easy of accomplishment if several societies or councils in a given area were to combine and appoint a full-time official to work in the district covered by the societies. It may be added that the training of men and women to take up the work of election agents is most important and an essential for ultimate success.

Relationship to Other Political Bodies.—The experience of the committee has shown that in those parts of the country where our candidates contested, our friends represented on the Joint Committee have loyally carried out the understanding arrived at. In these constituencies the co-operative candidate secured not only the moral, but the very active support of the local Labour and Trade Union forces. The need for co-ordination and mutual confidence between all democratic organisations is very evident and is a matter which will demand the serious consideration of all Progressive forces in the near future. The committee realise that the fight of the future will be far more keen than in the past, and that while in our great movement we may have power, we also have great responsibility towards the whole cause of Democracy. The gathering together of vested interests under the coalition banner may after all prove to be one of the most effective driving forces towards the formation of a federation of democratic parties, whether in the shape of a Democratic or People's Party, or a working agreement between sympathetic organisations.

Literature.—During the year, particularly at the time of the General Election, additional literature was prepared by the committee. A National Manifesto was issued during the election, together with several leaflets including one in which a special appeal was made to women voters. The question of providing further literature is under consideration and it is hoped shortly to publish further pamphlets. Arrangements have been made whereby all literature prepared by the committee may be obtained from the Publications Department of the Union.

Propaganda.—Arising out of the results of the General Election the committee are of the opinion that united effort is needed for propaganda work amongst our members. Especially is there need for the education of the electors as to the special claim of our movement for their support. Steps have already been taken by the men's and women's guilds to inaugurate special propaganda campaigns throughout the country. The United Board have accepted the recommendation of the National Co-operative Representation Committee, that, during the coming Congress year, sectional conferences shall be held to consider the question of political representation, at which representatives of the National Committee will attend and deal with the work and policy of the committee. It is hoped that arrangements can be made whereby political councils may be officially represented.

Central Education Committee.—The National Co-operative Representation Committee were invited to send a deputation to meet a sub-committee of the Central Education Committee in order to discuss a new scheme for co-ordination of the work of political propaganda. A most amicable meeting was the result, and it was finally agreed that the Central Education Committee should take charge of the work of organising week-end and summer schools and classes for the teaching of political subjects, and also provide the teachers. Arrangements have been made to continue the One and Two-Days Political Schools which proved so successful last year.

Any suggestions put forward by the National Committee will be favourably considered by the Central Education Committee, who invite the National Co-operative Representation Committee to send a representative to their meetings when political matters are under consideration. The preparation of literature or text books for issue through the Publications Department, is relegated to the National Co-operative Representation Committee, as is also the appointment of speakers for political gatherings. Men's and women's guilds are to be invited to send in any suggestions to the National Committee, who will consider and afterwards submit them to the Central Education Committee.

COUNTY COUNCIL, MUNICIPAL, AND OTHER LOCAL BODIES.

The committee wish to impress upon all societies and political councils the importance of securing co-operative representation on county council, municipal, and other local administrative bodies. Every opportunity should be taken to nominate suitable co-operators for election to these bodies. By this means the influence of our movement may be greatly

extended and machinery established for use in subsequent Parliamentary contests. It is gratifying to record that reports have been received showing that since last Congress many political councils have already taken action and are securing the return of co-operators to their local administrative councils.

MAGISTERIAL APPOINTMENTS.

The appointment of co-operators as magistrates in counties and county boroughs has occupied the attention of the committee during the year. By an interview with the Lord Chancellor's Secretary arrangements were made whereby societies should submit the names of suitable persons to the Advisory committees which have been formed to assist the Lord Chancellor in the appointment of magistrates.

The question of co-operative representation on the Advisory committees themselves is a most important one and was raised during the interview. It was finally agreed that where societies desired representation on the Advisory committees they should submit carefully selected names to the National Co-operative Representation Committee, who would afterwards forward them to the Lord Chancellor. In this connection co-operators who are already magistrates would be acceptable nominees. Full consideration of any recommendations put forward is promised.

PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION.

The question of proportional representation in Parliament and on local bodies has been discussed by the committee, and many communications have been received from societies advising us to include proportional representation in our policy. After full consideration, the committee have decided to submit the matter for the approval of Congress. (See resolution at the end of report.)

CONCLUSION.

Reviewing the work as a whole the committee submit that there is every reason to be encouraged by what has been accomplished. The entry of the co-operative movement into the political arena was not brought about hastily or without full consideration. The committee firmly believe that the results have fully justified the steps taken. It must be remembered that it was not until the movement had definitely decided to enter the political field, that co-operators were given fair representation on the Government Committees which were set up during the war. It is certain that the consideration we shall receive from the hands of the Government in future will depend upon the influence we are able to wield in Parliament itself.

The co-operative movement, with its practical policy of reconstruction, has special claims to the consideration of all those who work to build not only a "country fit for heroes to live in," but a world where those who labour have joy in their services, and wherein mutual co-operation for the common good shall be the foundation of a real Co-operative Commonwealth.

W. H. WATKINS, Chairman.

S. F. PERRY, Secretary.

RESOLUTIONS.

I.—PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION.

That this Congress strongly approves of the principle of proportional representation in both Parliamentary and Local Government elections, and demands that, when municipal elections are resumed, the whole of each council shall vacate their seats and the new council be elected on the principle of proportional representation.

II.—NEW DEMOCRATIC OR PEOPLE'S PARTY.

- (A) That this Congress, whilst recognising the success attending the efforts made to secure direct representation in Parliament and on local governing bodies, has fully justified the decisions of the Swansea Congress and the London Emergency Conference, yet believes that the time has arrived for the establishment of a closer relationship between all democratic organisations in the common interest. It, therefore, instructs the National Co-operative Representation Committee to negotiate with the Labour Party and Trades Union Congress Parliamentary Committee with a view to a federation for electoral purposes, and with the ultimate object of forming a United Democratic or People's Party.**
- (B) This Congress also directs the Central Board to take the necessary steps to ensure adequate discussion by the movement of any proposals to this end, jointly agreed upon by the above mentioned parties, before submission to Congress, and for such purpose to convene a special conference, or conferences, if found desirable.**

III.—CONSCRIPTION.

That this Congress emphatically declares its unqualified opposition to the policy of conscription as applied to this country, and resolves to use every effort to bring about the repeal of the existing conscription laws.

IV.—CO-OPERATIVE PARTY.

That the scheme for securing direct representation, adopted at the Liverpool Congress, 1918, be amended, in order to allow the political activities undertaken by the National Co-operative Representation Committee to be designated the Co-operative Party.

RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION.

- (A) That the following paragraph be added to the constitution :—
 " Name.—The Co-operative Party."
- (B) That the words " National Co-operative Representation Committee " be deleted from the constitution wherever they appear and " National Committee " be substituted.

25. JOINT EXHIBITIONS COMMITTEE.

Owing to the continuance of the war, this committee has not met, as it was impossible to arrange for any exhibition. It is proposed that the committee should be again re-appointed to deal with the applications which are certain to be received for sectional exhibitions during the current Congress year.

26. JOINT COMMITTEE OF TRADE-UNIONISTS AND CO-OPERATORS.**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE.**

The committee during the past year was constituted as follows :—

Representing the Co-operative Union : Messrs. G. Major, R. Rowsell, D. Williams, and A. Whitehead.

Representing the Trades Union Congress Parliamentary Committee : Messrs. C. W. Bowerman, M.P., J. W. Ogden, E. L. Poulton, and G. H. Stuart-Bunning.

The committee has met on three occasions since last Congress, viz. :—18th June (adjourned to 26th June), 1918 ; 15th January and 21st March, 1919. At the first meeting two cases were submitted for arbitration, one on behalf of the Shop Assistants' Union.

A claim having been made by the Shop Assistants' Union to the Joint Committee of London Societies, the question arose first of all as to the societies to which the application should apply, as there appeared to be a difference of opinion, the shop assistants maintaining that they were making their claim against two societies only, whereas the Joint Committee thought it was a general application and applied to all societies. It was, therefore, after careful consideration, decided that the award should apply to the societies mentioned in the award (which is given below).

Mr. J. Turner (general secretary of the Shop Assistants' Union) presented the case on behalf of the Union, which was supplemented by Mr. Hoffman, and was replied to by Mr. Hazledine on behalf of the Joint London Committee. After hearing the statement from both sides, the committee adjourned, and arranged to meet again on 26th June to give its decision.

The committee therefore met again in a committee room of the House of Commons on 26th June, and gave the following award :—

The Joint Committee representing the following co-operative societies, viz. :—Anchor, Bromley, Croydon, Edmonton, Enfield Highway, Hendon, Penge, Staines,

Stratford, West London, and Willesden; and the National Amalgamated Union of Shop Assistants.

Whereas the above committee received from the above union an application as per following statement for an alteration in the wage rates and bonus hitherto prevailing. Having failed to arrive at a settlement, it was agreed by both parties that the matter should be referred to the Joint Committee of trade-unionists and co-operators for arbitration, both parties agreeing to abide by their decision.

The joint board met at London on 18th June and again on 26th June, and considered the case.

The following is the claim made by the Union :—

(1) That the present war bonus be merged into wages, and that an advance of 20 per cent upon earnings be then granted to all the employees.

(2) Women in charge of bread shops retailing bread and flour only, minimum 32s. per week.

(3) Manageresses of general shops to receive men's rates, viz. :—

Takings under £80..... £2.

Takings over £80 £2. 5s.

(Shops retailing more articles than bread and flour, to be classified as general shops.)

(4) Women taking men's places and doing the same work to receive not less than the minimum rates laid down for men.

(5) Wages for girls.

Age..... 16 17 18 19 20.

Wage 12/- 15/- 18/- 21/- 24/-

(6) Wages for females 21 years of age and over.

Age 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

Wage 31/- 32/- 33/- 34/- 35/- 36/- 37/- 38/-

(7) That the rates for women in departments other than grocery be extended beyond 20 years of age, in accordance with the union's London Minimum Wage Scale, which is as follows :—

Age..... 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

Wage 25/- 26/- 27/- 28/- 29/- 30/- 31/- 32/-

(8) These rates to be paid only to those showing membership card of their trade union.

The committee award as follows :—

(1) That the time is inopportune for merging war bonus into wages; but that an increase of the present war bonus be given of 3s. per week, making a total war bonus of 5s. per week for juniors up to and including 20 years of age; and 6s per week, making 10s. per week, for adult employees 21 years of age and over. (This does not apply to "craft-workers," or departmental managers, or buyers.)

(2) Women in Charge of Bread Shops.—Minimum wage of 28s. per week, plus war bonus. (Definition of bread shops to be 80 per cent bread and flour.)

- (3) Manageresses of General Shops. — Minimum wage of 40s. per week, plus war bonus—for shops taking up to £100; over £100 per week the minimum shall be 42s. per week, plus war bonus.
- (4) Women, 21 years of age and over, taking men's places and doing the same work to receive not less than the minimum rates laid down for men. (The definition of "same work" to be decided by the officials of the society and the union. Failing agreement, the matter shall be referred to the joint secretaries, whose decision shall be final.)
- (5) Wages for Girls (Grocery Departments).
- | | | | | | |
|---------|------|------|------|------|----------------------|
| Age.... | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| Wage.. | 10/- | 13/- | 16/- | 19/- | 22/- plus war bonus. |
- (6) Wages for Females 21 years of age or over (Grocery Department). The basic wage for females of 21 years of age shall be 24s. per week, plus war bonus, with an increase of 1s. per week for each year's experience gained after attaining the age of 21.
- (7) Girls and Women in departments other than Grocery.
- | | | | | | |
|---------|------|------|------|------|-------|
| Age.... | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| Wage .. | 10/- | 13/- | 16/- | 19/- | 22/-. |

The basic wage for females of 21 years of age shall be 24s. per week, plus war bonus, with an increase of 1s. per week for each year's experience gained after attaining the age of 21.

The foregoing rates shall apply to all employees, except those specially mentioned in the first clause of the award.

Retrospective payment. The foregoing wages scales and rates shall become operative on and from the pay day in the week ending 18th May, 1918.

That this award shall be binding on both parties for a term of not less than six months from this date (26th June); after this period either the societies or the union shall be at liberty to terminate the award by giving three months' notice.

THE SECOND CASE.

This was an application made upon two societies in the London district by the Clerks' Union for an inclusive war bonus as stated in the award given below. The case was presented by Mr. Hughes on behalf of the Clerks' Union, and supplemented by Mr. Brammer. Mr. G. Coffin replied on behalf of the societies. After hearing the evidence the decision was postponed until the meeting on 26th June.

On 26th June consideration was given to the statement, and the following award made.

The Joint Committee representing the following Co-operative Societies, viz.,—Edmonton and West London and the National Union of Clerks.

Whereas the above Committee received from the above Union an application for an inclusive bonus of 25s. per week for clerks of 18 years of age and over, and of 12s. 6d. per week for clerks under 18 years of age, and as after discussing the matter, no decision could be arrived at, it was agreed to refer the question to

the Joint Committee of Trade Unionists and Co-operators for arbitration, both parties agreeing to abide by their decision.

The joint board met in London on 18th June and 26th June, and after hearing the evidence put before them, make the following award.

AWARD.

That an inclusive war bonus of 5s. per week be paid to all junior clerks up to and including 20 years of age, and 10s. per week for adult clerks 21 years of age and over.

Retrospective payment: The foregoing wages scales and rates shall become operative on and from the pay day in the week ending 18th May, 1918.

That this award shall be binding on both parties for a term of not less than six months from this date (26th June), after which period either the societies or the union shall be at liberty to terminate the award by giving three months' notice.

The second meeting was held at Stoke-on-Trent on 15th January, 1919, to consider a dispute which had arisen between the Silverdale Society and the Operative Bakers and Allied Workers' Union with regard to the wages of the vanmen employed by the society. It was agreed by the parties that the case should be submitted to this Joint Committee, and both sides intimated they would abide by such arbitration.

On behalf of the union, Mr. Banfield said the request of their union was that the National Award of the Joint Industrial Council of the Bread Baking Industry, which came into operation on 23rd September, 1918, should be put into operation so far as it affects the vanmen at the Silverdale Society, and this meant a 20 per cent advance on the rates of wages paid at the time the national award was put into operation. The vanmen in question were members of their union, and the union had previously negotiated with the society on their behalf, so that they claimed the right to make the demand now put forward, as the award covered allied workers; and at a meeting of the Joint Industrial Council, held in November, 1918, it was decided that where the Bakers' Union had, previous to the national award, negotiated on behalf of vanmen, then the award should apply to such vanmen. This statement was briefly supplemented by Mr. Emery, the local secretary of the union.

On behalf of the Silverdale Society, Mr. Dryhurst stated they were members of the Macclesfield, Crewe, and District Hours and Wages Board, and up to the present they had always settled any differences with their employees through this board. They claimed that the vanmen were transport workers, and, as regards their wages, they had been treated as such. In August, 1918, the society advanced the wages of these men to 20s. per week over pre-war rates, which was considerably in advance of the transport workers' rates in the district. In December, 1918, they had offered an additional advance of 2s. 6d., but this was refused. Mr. Turner (the manager of the society) and Mr. Riley (a member of the committee) supplemented.

After hearing both sides, the representatives of the union and the society left the room, and the committee proceeded to consider the case in all its bearings and ultimately passed the following resolution, viz. :—

That after hearing both sides, and having regard to the advances given by the Silverdale Society in August, 1918, this committee awards an advance of 5s. to each person on whose behalf application was made by the Operative Bakers' and Allied Workers' Union.

A deputation from Blackburn Co-operative Societies waited upon the committee and stated the position in which the societies were placed owing to a strike in the town, to which they were not parties, neither had they any dispute with their employees.

After hearing the statement, the committee instructed Mr. Bowerman to write the trade unions concerned, with the object of the co-operative employees being allowed to resume work.

The third meeting was held at Manchester, on the 21st March, 1919, to deal with a matter which had been referred to this committee by several co-operative societies in the north-east Lancashire district.

This was to consider the situation created by a certain agreement which had been arrived at between the Master Painters and the Operative Painters' Associations. Briefly, this is that the latter have undertaken to withdraw their labour from any society or firm which does not conform to the rules of the Master Painters' Association. The latter, amongst other things, fixes the retail charges, and this is a procedure which co-operative societies do not always feel inclined to acquiesce in, but wish to be free to charge less, if circumstances warrant. That course would however involve, on the local operatives' secretary's written statement, the withdrawal of the men's labour, and the same result would obtain in the case of any other breach of the rules.

Even when a co-operative society is a member of the Master Painters' Association, its sole representative must be the painting manager, and not a committee-man. This is a rule which societies strongly object to.

The whole position therefore is, in the opinion of the co-operative societies concerned, one which seems to indicate that the operative painters are, perhaps unwittingly, lending themselves to force societies to be at the mercy of private traders.

The matter had been discussed at a meeting of the United Advisory Council of Trade Unionists and Co-operators, when the trade unionists present undertook to bring it before the notice of the Trades Union Congress Parliamentary Committee, in order to ascertain their views. As a result of consideration by the Trades Union Congress Parliamentary Committee, it was decided that this joint committee should meet to discuss the question along with representatives from the societies and the Operative Painters' Association.

The case was submitted, on behalf of the co-operative societies, by Mr. Acton, of Nelson, supplemented by representatives from Accrington, Burnley, and Colne societies, and the representative from the district hours and wages board.

Messrs. Gibson and Piper replied on behalf of the Operative Painters' Association, and in their reply said they would not contest the point of representation on the masters' association by the painting manager, but thought a committeeman might be appointed. As regards the general question, they could not recede from the position taken up, as this action had resulted in considerable advantage to the operatives' association.

After the representatives had retired the matter was discussed, and it was decided to refer the question for consideration by the Trades Union Congress Parliamentary Committee and to ask that committee to allow Mr. Whitehead and the labour adviser of the Co-operative Union to attend when the case is being considered.

C. W. BOWERMAN, | Joint
A. WHITEHEAD, | Secretaries.

27. UNITED ADVISORY COUNCIL OF TRADE-UNIONISTS AND CO-OPERATORS.

The United Advisory Council, consisting of six representatives appointed by the Parliamentary Committee of the Trades Union Congress, and a similar number appointed by the Co-operative Union, was formed as a result of resolutions adopted at the congress of the two movements, with the object of promoting a better understanding and a closer working agreement between the trade union and the co-operative movements, and the carrying out of a joint programme for educational and practical purposes without interfering with the separate and distinct functions of either constituent body.

During the past year the Council has been constituted as follows:—

Representing the Co-operative Union: Messrs. M. H. Clear, G. Goodenough, W. Millerchip, W. H. Watkins, D. Williams, and G. Wilson.

Representing the Parliamentary Committee of the Trades Union Congress: Miss M. Bondfield, Messrs. J. W. Ogden, A. Onions, E. L. Poulton, G. H. Stuart-Brunning, and W. Thorne, M.P.

Joint Secretaries: Messrs. C. W. Bowerman, M.P., and A. Whitehead.

Since last Congress, the United Council has met on five occasions, viz., July 11, October 3, December 19, 1918; January 16, and March 5, 1919.

Joint conferences arranged by the Council have been held at Birmingham, Bristol, Glasgow, London and Manchester, at each of these a resolution was adopted suggesting the formation of local advisory councils. This resolution has been duly considered by the United Council and a scheme drafted for the division of the country into districts, and a pamphlet prepared setting out the basis upon which local councils should be formed, also outlining their functions. The local councils are to be composed of an equal number of representatives from both movements, which number varies according to the area to be covered.

The Co-operative Union referred to this Council a statement containing facts and proposals in regard to the alarming situation created by the growth of

capitalistic consolidation, and suggested that an imposing joint conference should be arranged, to take place in London, about the same time as the opening of Parliament.

This matter was carefully considered and the suggestion was approved by the trade union representatives on the council, but they preferred, before any action was taken, to consult the Parliamentary Committee of the Trades Union Congress; this was done and received their hearty sympathy and approval. The Council thereupon made the necessary arrangements, and the first National Joint Conference was convened and took place on Thursday, 6th March, 1919, in the Memorial Hall, London.

The attendance numbered over 700 delegates and the following resolutions were submitted—upon each there was a good discussion—and in each case the resolution was unanimously adopted :—

(1) UNITY OF ACTION.

That this Joint Conference, representing the trade union and co-operative movements, realising the increasing necessity for united action in the interests of the workers as producers and consumers, welcomes the inauguration of the United Advisory Council of Trade-unionists and Co-operators, it gives unqualified support to the declared policy of mutual assistance on the part of trade union and co-operative forces as contained in the statement issued by the Advisory Council, and pledges itself to further to the utmost the organising of working-class opinion and activity against the reactionary efforts to obstruct and hinder the social and economic emancipation of the workers.

(2) MENACE OF COMBINES TO BE MET BY STATE, MUNICIPAL AND CO-OPERATIVE CONTROL.

That this Joint Conference, in view of the enormous increase in the cost of living during the war, the profiteering that has taken place, and the development and exercise of monopoly power by trading and financial interests during the period of the war, declares its uncompromising opposition to the recommendations of the Government committee on commercial and industrial policy after the war so far as they propose—

- (1) State encouragement of industrial and commercial combinations undertaking productive and trading activities for private profit ;
- (2) The granting of powers to such combinations for the compulsory acquisition of land and factories for industrial purposes in the interests of the combination ;
- (3) State subsidies for profit-seeking undertakings ; and
- (4) The adoption of protectionist measures which would interfere with the free exchange of commodities between nation and nation.

And, further, the Conference condemns the handing over to private firms of munition, aircraft and other factories, ships and other property acquired for national purposes during the war, and demands that all the property so acquired on behalf of the community shall be retained in public ownership in order that it may be used for the development of productive and distributive undertakings in the interests of the community and under State, Municipal, or Co-operative control.

(3) FINANCIAL SUPPORT.

That this Conference, recognising that the power of the co-operative movement to develop its activities is limited by the amount of capital at its disposal and the trade provided by its members, calls upon all men and women trade unionists and their wives and husbands to strengthen their economic position and that of the co-operative movement by trading as much as possible with the nearest co-operative society and allowing their savings to accumulate with it, and by insuring individually and collectively through the Co-operative Insurance Society; and it further calls upon all trade unions to bank with the Co-operative Wholesale Society and place all their surplus funds with the society; it also calls upon co-operators to develop their activities locally, nationally, and internationally, in order to strengthen the position of co-operative industry and secure a greater control over raw materials and sources of supply, with a view to placing all industry on a co-operative basis in the interests of the workers and the community in general.

Arrangements are being made for holding sectional conferences with a view to interesting as many members of both movements as possible in the objects of the joint council, and literature on the subject, for free distribution, is now in course of preparation.

The Southern Sectional Board of the Co-operative Union has entered into the subject vigorously and has held two conferences, one at Walworth, at which the attendance was remarkably good, and the success attending this conference has encouraged them to entertain a more ambitious scheme and arrange for a large delegate meeting and demonstration in the Albert Hall, London.

For the Metropolitan area a local council has been set up, and conferences are to be held, in each of the ten districts comprising the section, with a view to forming other local councils.

The North-Western Sectional Board has also arranged a joint conference, to be held in Manchester, about the end of April.

At the United Advisory Council meetings matters of importance are often introduced and as a result of the joint discussion many slight misunderstandings, which might have developed into serious problems, have been put straight.

C. W. BOWERMAN, } Joint
A. WHITEHEAD, } Secretaries.

28. CO-OPERATIVE DEFENCE COMMITTEE.

This committee has not been called together during the year, as no matter of serious importance has required attention.

Each member has been communicated with, asking their opinion whether a grant from the Defence Fund should be made to the Teignmouth Co-operative Society to assist in defraying the expenses incurred by them in defending their chairman, who had been prosecuted under the Defence of the Realm Act for statements supposed to have been made at a meeting of the society. The case was dismissed by the court, but certain expenses had to be met. The committee unanimously agreed that this was a case for assistance, and granted the sum of £15.

THE CENTRAL BOARD.

29. HONORARY MEMBERS.

The following gentlemen are submitted for appointment as honorary members of the Central Board for the coming Congress year. They have been recommended by their Sectional Boards and approved by the United Board.

Section.	Members.
Irish	Mr. R. Fleming.
Midland	Messrs. E. L. Griffiths, D. McInnes, S. Redfern, W. W. Smith, and G. Woodhouse.
Northern	Messrs. H. R. Bailey, W. Crooks, and J. Murdoch.
North-Western	Mr. H. Stuttard.
Scottish	Messrs. Jas. Allan, D. H. Gerrard, and A. Meldrum.
Southern	Messrs. A. H. D. Acland, A. W. Golightly, E. O. Greening, A. Hainsworth, H. J. May, and R. Rowsell.
South-Western	Messrs. A. Bullock and H. Westbury.
Western	Mr. E. R. Wood.

30. DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE BOARD.

It is with regret that we have to record the heavy loss sustained by the Central Board through the decease of several of its members since last Congress. We cannot recollect any previous year in which the Board has lost so many of its members by death.

The Midland Section has lost one member, viz., Mr. S. Butler, who had been a member since 1874, with a break of one year on two occasions; the North-Western Section has lost Mr. C. J. Beckett (with 10 years' service as member and

14 years as honorary member), and Mr. J. Morrell (with 8 years' service); the Scottish Section has lost two members, viz., Mr. G. Bisset (with 16 years' service), and Mr. J. Lochhead (with 19 years' service).

These departed colleagues have all rendered long and faithful service to the cause of Co-operation, and their loss will be felt by all who knew the value of their work.

THE SECTIONS.

31. REPORTS OF THE SECTIONS.

Detailed reports of the work done by the Sections and District Associations will be found at the end of this Report. We give below a brief summary of the matters dealt with in these reports.

(1) IRELAND.

(a) New Societies.—The section reports an increasing interest in the establishment of the movement, and in several districts where propaganda has hitherto taken place without apparent result societies have been formed or are in course of definite formation.

(b) Propaganda.—A list of places is given in the detailed reports where propaganda efforts have been made, and in many of these considerable hope of the successful establishment of societies is expressed.

(c) Food Control.—Trouble has been experienced in obtaining permission to transfer sugar cards to new societies, and to existing societies where cards had been placed elsewhere. The matter is still in process of settlement. Food Control Committees in Belfast, Dublin, and Cork have been approached with regard to improved flour supplies, and the section reports that these interviews had good effect.

(d) Education.—The first Irish summer school was held at Larne for two weeks, and a week-end school held at Dublin at the close of the summer school. These were most successful, about thirty students attending the former and fifty the latter.

(e) Societies' Accounts.—A list of societies which have had their accounts audited is given in the detailed report. This work resulted in a sum of £128. 12s. 6d. being paid into the Union funds.

(f) Conferences.—The northern district conference was held at Armagh, when Mr. R. Fleming submitted a synopsis of Mr. D. McInnes' paper on "Farming by Distributive Co-operative Societies." The southern district conference was held at Dublin, when Mr. F. Hall gave an address on the trade report of the Survey Committee.

At the annual joint conference a resolution was carried asking the Union to approve the setting up of a committee to prepare a survey of the co-operative

movement in Ireland. It was also agreed that the Irish Co-operative Conference Association should be dissolved and the societies in the association be formed into three separate district associations, viz., the Northern, Midland, and Southern, with a committee to carry on the work in each district.

(2) MIDLAND.

(a) Propaganda.—The section reports a falling-off in propaganda effort, owing to the difficulty of train services, but, nevertheless, progress has been achieved.

(b) Conferences.—Working in conjunction with the Educational Committees' Association, several successful conferences and week-end schools have been held. The annual musical festival was also a great success. Three sectional conferences have been held, which have respectively considered the Survey Committee's report on "The Constitution of the Co-operative Union," the Trade Report of the Survey Committee, and, at the joint conference with the Educational Association, the subject of "Reconstruction in Politics."

(c) Farming.—As a result of the discussion on Mr. D. McInnes' paper on "Farming by Distributive Societies," this work has received an unusual impetus in the section, and considerable progress is reported.

(d) Hours and Wages Boards.—Considerable activity on the part of the Hours and Wages Boards and the Conciliation Board is reported, and a large number of cases have been dealt with.

(e) General.—During the year a large amount of work has been undertaken in promoting co-operative political action, and the section reports that more than a score of one-day political schools have been held, and that eighty-three societies in the section are affiliated with the National Co-operative Representation Committee. The section claims the honour of electing the first co-operative member of Parliament.

(f) Convalescent Fund.—Six additional societies have subscribed to the fund, making a total of 102 subscribers. In view of the inadequate provision for tuberculous cases, a resolution was passed at the annual meeting urging the formation of a Ministry of Health and forwarded to the Government.

(3) NORTHERN.

(a) Co-operative Employees and Military Service. Regional Advisory Committees.—Mention is made in the report of the action taken by the Sectional Board in this matter; also in the case of non-pivotal men.

(b) Conferences.—Four Conferences have been held: (1) The Annual Sectional Conference, which dealt with the Annual Report and also two special resolutions, on the necessity of greater uniformity of method in dealing with wages questions, and on the question of Parliamentary representation; (2) Group Conference, at which short addresses were given on subjects of interest to the societies in the various groups; (3) Conference at Newcastle on Wages; and (4) Conference on Transport.

(c) Legal Advice to Societies.—Attention is drawn to the arrangements in force by which the Union's solicitor visits Newcastle periodically, and satisfaction is expressed with the facilities given.

(d) Two-days Schools.—In connection with the scheme for securing direct representation in Parliament and on local administrative authorities these two-days schools have been held and proved most satisfactory.

(e) Convalescent Home.—The report and balance sheet of the Gilsland Convalescent Home is considered very satisfactory and encouraging. The maintenance account shows a substantial surplus, and the bank overdraft, which a few years ago stood at £7,000, now practically disappears, because the amount standing to the credit of the Home on loan account with the C.W.S. is in excess of the overdraft.

(f) Several other matters are dealt with in the report, viz.:—"Reconstruction," "Winay Nook Tragedy Fund," "Joint Meeting with District Associations."

(4) NORTH-WESTERN.

(a) Conferences.—Conferences have been held as follows, viz.:—(1) At Pendleton, when Mr. W. R. Rae introduced the trade section of the Survey Committee's report; (2) joint conference with trade-unionists, at Manchester, when resolutions were passed setting forth the need for co-operation between the two bodies in the work of influencing national reconstruction, and in the unification and development of educational and propaganda effort as a means of aiding reconstruction, "national, co-operative, and industrial"; (3) Annual sectional conference at Liverpool, in May, when the sectional and district reports were discussed. The usual week-end gathering of co-operators, which had not taken place during the war, was resumed at Blackpool in April, when the gathering listened to three excellent discourses from Mr. Spurley Hey, B.A. (Director of Education, Manchester), Mr. G. W. Daniels, M.A., B.Com. (Manchester University), and Miss E. M. Bradley, M. A. (Bolton).

(b) Sectional Demonstration.—The section has decided to go forward with the arrangements for the annual sectional demonstration and choir contests.

(c) Parliamentary Representation.—Among other activities, the section reports the organisation of ten two-days political schools for the training of speakers and teachers, upwards of two hundred students attending these schools.

(d) Reconstruction.—With the view to strengthening the position of the movement, and undertaking considerable developments, the Board put forward a number of recommendations for the use of societies in the section. These are enumerated in the detailed report.

(e) Hours and Wages Boards.—For the better working of these boards federations have been established, one comprising the boards in Yorkshire and one in Lancashire. As a result a better co-ordination of effort than formerly existed is reported.

(f) Baking Industrial Councils.—Trouble has arisen in connection with

the amount of co-operative representation on the district councils, and negotiations are in progress with the Ministry of Labour on the matter.

(g) Boundaries and Amalgamation.—Satisfactory agreements relating to boundaries were arrived at between five societies, but negotiations are still not completed in the case of two others.

In several districts important steps are being taken towards amalgamation, the attempt in the Huddersfield district to co-ordinate the work of no less than eight societies being especially noticeable.

(h) General.—The report deals with other matters considered by the Board, including the organisation of allotment holders, convalescent homes, and propaganda effort towards the formation of new societies in the North Wales district.

(5) SCOTTISH.

(a) Nineteenth Annual Scottish Conference.—This conference was held at Glasgow in April, 1918, and dealt with the questions of (1) Local Autonomy for Scotland in connection with the Direct Representation of Co-operators in Parliament, (2) Co-operative Union Central Premises for Scotland, and (3) Co-operative Employees and National Service.

(b) Joint Meeting.—At the annual joint meeting Mr. J. Deans introduced the subject of "Direct Representation in Parliament and How to Attain It."

(c) Special Conferences.—Four special conferences have been held, at which the following subjects have been considered:—"International Trading After the War," "The Co-ordination and Unifying of the Work of the various Educational and Propaganda Organisations in Scotland," "The Work of the Industrial Council for the Baking Trade of Scotland," "and" "The Organisation, Co-operatively, of the Small Landowners of Scotland."

(d) Propaganda.—The section reports considerable activity on the part of the National Propaganda Committee, and lectures and public meetings have been confined, as far as practicable, to consideration of actual and pressing questions concerning the movement. The meetings held have been successful to an appreciable degree in keeping before the members and also the public generally the possibilities and attainments of the movement. The committee has in view an important campaign for the spring and summer months.

(e) Direct Representation.—The work of the Political Committee formed for the purpose of preparing the ground for the reception of the idea of direct representation, and of organising the vote for Scotland, are reported to have done most valuable work. The measure of success achieved by the three Scottish candidates in the General Election augurs well for future elections.

(f) Convalescent Homes.—Although a deficit still shows in the maintenance account, hope is expressed for a more prosperous time for the homes during the present year. The section is asking for increased support for the homes, and also for the Mothers' and Children's Home at Dunoon, which has more than doubled its expenditure.

(g) General.—The report also deals with the work of the Joint Advisory Committee, summer schools, proposed central premises for the Co-operative Union in Scotland, and legal matters.

(6) SOUTHERN.

(a) Progress.—Although membership has not increased to the same extent as the previous year, a marked development is reported by this section in purchasing power. A rise of £2. 18s. 6d. per head is adduced from the information sent in by 144 societies.

(b) Conferences.—Four sectional conferences have been held during the year, at which the following subjects were considered:—"Co-operative Political Questions," "Constitution of the Co-operative Union," "Co-operative Reconstruction," and "Subscriptions to the Co-operative Union."

(c) Amalgamations.—Several important amalgamations have taken place during the year, and other and more extensive schemes are in course of preparation.

(d) Boundaries.—Considerable activity has prevailed with respect to the delimitation of boundaries. A number of societies have fixed up satisfactory agreements.

(e) New Societies.—Two new societies have been formed, and several groups of people in various districts previously not covered by co-operative activity and desirous of becoming members of societies have been accommodated by the establishment of branches of existing societies. An important innovation is the formation of a society for the purpose of developing transport by road, rail, and canal in the area between Bristol and Poole Harbour, with the object of the ultimate control of docks and harbours and the development of a line of shipping from Poole to Cherbourg.

(f) Education.—The first summer school the section has had was held at Maidenhead, and a very successful run is reported.

(g) Direct Representation.—Although no candidates were put forward in this section at the General Election, much spadework was accomplished in this direction and support given to one or two candidates standing in the Labour interest. Electoral Councils have turned their attention towards representation on local governing bodies.

(h) Council for Baking Trade.—A meeting was held at which representatives from the Master Bakers' Association, the operatives' union, and co-operative societies met together for the purpose of setting up a district council under the Whitley national scheme. This was formed, but the chief concern of the employing bakers seem to have been to arrange for an increase in the price of bread. This question was settled by the Food Ministry refusing a national application by the private employers for such an increase.

(i) General.—A special report is given of the Southern Convalescent Fund, and the following subjects have also been dealt with by the section during the year:—The Education Bill, League of Nations, Co-operative Development and Extension, Proportional Representation, the National Debt, and the Survey Report.

(7) SOUTH-WESTERN.

(a) Progress.—This section reports that co-operative progress has been maintained and trade and membership increased. The large societies in the section are continually expanding their businesses, and others have extended their activities in acquiring farms, dairies, and fish departments, &c.

(b) Parliamentary Representation.—Several two-days and one-day schools have been held, and a considerable amount of propaganda work undertaken in order to achieve this object. Help was given to candidates standing in the Labour interest at the General Election.

(c) Propaganda.—The work of the Devon district organiser has been interrupted from causes due to the war, but his labours have now been resumed. A fair amount of educational work has also been accomplished.

(d) Relations with Farming Societies.—In one part of the section some opposition has been encountered from the local Farmers' Association. From the societies which have, however, combined to acquire land for agricultural purposes no complaint in this respect has so far been received.

(e) Conferences.—The sectional and district conferences have dealt solely with the report of the Survey Committee.

(f) General.—The question of amalgamation has been considered, but war conditions have somewhat reduced interest in this important subject. The report also refers to the work of the Hours and Wages Board and Baking Councils.

(8) WESTERN.

(a) Progress.—Very satisfactory increases in trade and membership of societies are reported by this section, and considerable building developments on the part of societies to cope with the expansion of business are also contemplated.

(b) Conferences.—Three sectional conferences have been held, dealing successively with the following subjects:—"Finance for Co-operators," "Reconstruction," and "Increased Subscriptions for the Co-operative Union."

(c) Hours and Wages Board.—Owing to a number of societies with drawing their representatives from this body, it has not been in a satisfactory position to deal with the claims made upon it. The sectional secretary reports the necessity for its reorganisation on a different basis.

(d) Educational.—Two special conferences have been held for the purpose of reorganising the Sectional Educational Committees' Association, the constitution of which remains to be settled.

(e) New Societies.—Two new societies have been formed, one of which shortly afterwards amalgamated. Prospects of the formation of successful societies in other localities are also good.

(f) Boundaries.—The services of the Board have been called upon to settle the differences of societies with regard to overlapping, which work has been accomplished without disturbing friendly relations.

Sectional Expenses:—

	1917.				1918.		
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
*Ireland	364	7	3	....	458	4	4
Midland	723	7	8	....	791	10	10
Northern	665	8	11	....	734	2	4
North-Western	1428	8	9	....	1507	1	6
*Scottish	1559	1	6	....	1600	6	3
Southern	1257	6	7	....	1443	13	1
South-Western	452	15	10	....	433	8	5
Western	337	7	6	....	243	11	8
	<u>6793 4 0</u>				<u>7211 18 5</u>		
	22223 16 0				27136 10 4		
Balance of Income over Expenditure	201 0 6						
	<u>£22424 16 6</u>				2727 1 0		
Balance of Expenditure over Income					<u>£24409 9 4</u>		

* Under the new system of accounts the Irish Section has been debited with £50 grant to Women's Guild and the balance of Propagandist Agent's expenses, after deducting audit fees received. The Scottish Section has been debited with the grant to Women's Guild (£175), legal advice amounting to £92. 4s., and grants to Propaganda Fund £200.

33. CONTRIBUTIONS FROM SOCIETIES.

Owing to the loyalty and appreciation of the societies the income of the Union shows an increase of £1,211. 18s. 5d. for 1918 as compared with the previous year.

The following is a summary of the contributions received from the societies in the various sections, and also the amounts received from publications advertisements, dividends, and interest:—

	1916.				1917.				1918.		
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Subscriptions from Sections:—											
Ireland	116	18	5	..	143	19	3	..	152	16	9
Midland	2,226	14	0	..	2,518	5	6	..	2,667	8	0
Northern	1,967	15	4	..	2,111	0	9	..	2,245	17	10
North-Western	7,048	15	6	..	7,540	9	10	..	7,899	14	5
Scottish	2,490	0	10	..	2,672	4	11	..	2,898	14	7
Southern	2,287	10	2	..	2,558	10	3	..	2,800	17	8
South-Western	709	13	9	..	714	0	4	..	778	16	10
Western	585	2	1	..	701	7	1	..	727	10	3
	<u>17,432 10 1</u>				<u>18,959 17 11</u>				<u>20,171 16 4</u>		
Other Receipts—											
Publications, Adver-											
tising, Dividends,											
Interest, &c.	3,559	10	0		3,464	18	7		4,237	13	0
	<u>£20,992 0 1</u>				<u>£22,424 16 6</u>				<u>£24,409 9 4</u>		

- (c) Increased railway fares, and cost of maintenance of persons attending meetings.
- (d) Increased cost of printing and postage.
- (e) Increased work of the Joint Parliamentary Committee.
- (f) New work undertaken, and detailed below.

During the war the increase in the work of the Joint Parliamentary Committee has been phenomenal, necessitating weekly meetings of the committee to deal with the many matters affecting societies arising out of legislation and the Defence of the Realm Act regulations. The committee have done work of enormous value to societies, and saved the movement incalculable sums of money, and many worries it would otherwise have had to face. The need for vigilance is still imperative, and reduction in cost cannot be expected for many months.

The Union has also given advice to societies regarding the excess profit tax, many thousands of pounds having been saved to societies as a result of acting upon the advice of the Union; and most of the amounts paid by societies have been recovered.

The new work and expense undertaken since 1911 includes:—

- (a) The organisation of a statistical department and trade information bureau.
- (b) The organisation of a labour department (with the appointment of a labour adviser).
- (c) The establishment of hours and wages boards and conciliation boards.
- (d) The appointments of organisers for the London and Devon districts, and provision for special propaganda in Scotland.
- (e) The appointment of a whole-time secretary for the Midland section.
- (f) The development of work of the educational department (with the appointment of Professor Hall as adviser of studies and a staff of teachers).
- (g) The development of the publications department.
- (h) The extension of the legal department.
- (i) And, latterly, the organisation of a political department with a secretary and clerical and organising staff.

The expenses of the sectional boards have also increased considerably along with a development of their activities.

The developments enumerated in the previous paragraph have been welcomed by societies and by Congress; indeed the Central Board is continually being pressed to increase the Union's activities. Further extensions of their work are contemplated by several committees of the Union, but are at present held up because of lack of funds. With such extensions, the expenditure of the Union is bound to increase automatically, without the undertaking of any further new work. Thus, the Union is pledged to find sums up to £8,000 for the administrative part of the political work of the movement; and this amount is almost entirely additional to the expenditure incurred in 1917, and does not include the amounts to be contributed by societies specially for political work. In addition, the recommendations of the committees—education, survey, &c., mentioned

on pages 3 and 4—when adopted, will involve a further increase of the Union's activities and expenses.

The United Board feel sure that societies will not allow the work of the Union to be hampered for lack of funds. The Union in the future will have to adopt a still more vigorous policy and undertake even more numerous activities in order to protect the welfare of societies and advance the interests of the movement; but the work which is waiting to be done and which will inevitably devolve upon the Union in the future can only be undertaken if the Union is provided with the necessary funds.

The United Board is of opinion that an increase in the income of the Union is at once required, and it recommends that the rate of subscription be advanced to 2d. per member per annum. The Board believes that this opinion will be endorsed by societies in membership with the Union, and that the amount asked for will be readily granted when the proposal is submitted to the next Congress at Carlisle.

In the following pages an account of the present and some of the prospective new work of the Union is explained for the information of societies.

On behalf of the United Board,

Yours faithfully,

F. HAYWARD, Chairman.

A. WHITEHEAD, General Secretary.

SOME OF THE PRESENT AND PROSPECTIVE ACTIVITIES OF THE CO-OPERATIVE UNION.

In order to explain in greater detail the present and contemplated work of the Union, it has been thought desirable to sketch the actual and prospective work of the various committees and departments of the Union. These departments have been outlined by the Survey Committee as follows:—Legal, Accounting and Audit, Education, Statistical and Trade Information, Propaganda and Publicity, Publications, Labour, Political, General Administration.

Legal Department.—The demands upon the Union for legal advice have continuously grown, and arrangements have been recently completed for the Solicitor of the Union to visit Newcastle monthly, in order that societies in the Newcastle area may consult him. Visits to other sectional centres have also been suggested. Special arrangements have also been made whereby societies may have legal services rendered for them through the Union.

The Survey Committee in their report contemplate further extensions of the activity of this department on behalf of societies. The recent, and contemplated, extensions of the department will necessarily add to the cost as well as the usefulness of this department.

Accounting and Audit Department.—This department has not yet been organised, except that the Union's agent in Ireland audits the accounts of several Irish societies. The Union has given advice to societies regarding the Excess Profits Tax, many thousands of pounds having been saved to societies as a result of acting upon the advice of the Union. The assistance required by

societies from this department of the Union is bound to grow and increase the expenditure of the Union, from which, however, societies will receive benefits many times greater than the cost incurred. The Survey Committee are recommending that the auditing services be developed.

Education Department.—The work of this department has increased at least threefold during recent years. Much teaching and examining work that was previously "farmed out" is now undertaken by the Union staff, with great advantage to the Union. Lectures to managers, management committees &c., have been given, and lectures to secretaries have been continued. The Summer Schools, which began in 1913 with one school for a fortnight, with 40 students in attendance, had increased to six last year, with a duration of 14 weeks and an attendance of 500-600 students; and now that the war is ended, an expansion to 12 schools is likely to take place during the next two or three years. This will necessitate increased teaching staff, and a corresponding increase of expense which can be justified by the valuable work done at the schools. Week-end Schools—about 100 are arranged for the current year—are also increasing rapidly and making additional demands upon the Union. The Men's Guild is watched over by the Education Department, and the anticipated developments of the Guild will involve increased expense. The *Co-operative Educator* has now been issued for two years, and has been welcomed by societies and students. Monthly publication of the magazine is contemplated, but this will not be possible until the staff is increased. The *Educational Programme* recently issued foreshadows about 80 new courses, and the giving of instruction in these new subjects and the development of the *Programme* will make necessary more staff assistance, and involve additional printing charges. Knowledge is essential, and we cannot afford to be ignorant upon questions of vital co-operative importance, whatever be the cost. Other matters too numerous to be described in detail will also increase the work and expense of the department. They include the development of the library and the slides and cinema department; the provision of additional scholarships for salesmen and secretaries; the appointment of travelling teachers, lecturers, and educational organisers; the development of the work among young co-operators; the establishment of a co-operative college; the acquisition of guest-houses, &c., &c.

Statistical and Trade Information Bureau.—This department will be of great assistance to societies requiring information of a statistical or trade nature. The foundations of the department have been laid, but the development of the department in order that useful information—such as the cost of working various departments and the preliminary steps necessary before a new department can be opened with prospects of success—may be placed at the disposal of societies is essential now that the war is ended. This will lead to increased expenditure; but the results, while they will justify the expenditure, will not produce the necessary income. The joint research scheme with the Labour Research Department and the Co-operative Reference Library is already an assured success, over 200 societies having already affiliated, and the development of the activities of the joint-research work will make additional demands upon the department.

Propaganda and Publicity Department.—The organisation of this department was recommended by the Survey Committee, and the development of propaganda work by the appointment of organisers to the Union staff was approved by Congress. In view of the importance to the movement of propaganda and publicity, the organisation of this department cannot well be long delayed. Its work will be an extension of the propaganda work previously undertaken by Mr. Griffiths and other propaganda agents of the Union, whilst the organisers will be a connecting link between the Union and the societies which compose its membership.

Publications Department.—Though this department is an income-earning department, additional expense will necessarily be incurred by it as its work develops, owing to the amount of capital which will be locked up in stocks. Additional expense for staff purposes will also be incurred. The *Quarterly Review* is now published through this department, and other journals will, from time to time, be added to the publications for which it will be responsible. The political and general literature of the Union is published through this department, and the volume and variety of the literature issued by the Union are constantly increasing.

Labour Department.—The nucleus of this department already exists with the appointment of a Labour Adviser; but the work of the department—which covers the whole of the United Kingdom—is bound to grow and require additional staff. The co-ordination of the work of the Hours and Wages Boards and of the Conciliation Boards may be mentioned as indicative of some of the work that lies ahead. Watching labour legislation, and observing and reporting upon labour conditions in the movement and outside, may be quoted as further work that has to be undertaken.

Political Department.—This department has only recently been instituted, and the extent of its activities can be only surmised at present. Its work will obviously be extensive, and the expense incurred by the Union will be considerable. The present anticipation is that the Union will have to undertake work which will cost, approximately, £3,000 a year. This work was never contemplated when the subscriptions of societies were fixed at 1½d. per member. The expenses of this department alone will be equal to ½d. per member of each society which is a member of the Union. It can hardly be continued unless societies' subscriptions to the Union are increased. The Union has not yet borne a full year's expense for this department, but, even without this expense, the Union's expenditure was in 1918 in excess of subscriptions received.

Department of General Administration.—Though last to be enumerated, because it undertakes all work not allocated to the departments already described, this department is the most representative of the general activities of the Union, and its work is most important. It takes charge of the organisation of Congresses, and will be responsible for organising the proposed Trade and Business Congress; it maintains the connection with the Sectional Boards, supervises the printing and issue of Sectional Board minutes, the issue of circulars to societies, collects the subscriptions from societies, and supervises the

general funds of the Union and the special funds that are from time to time organised; undertakes the organisation of the meetings of the Central Board, United Board, and their sub-committees; conducts the general correspondence; and it maintains relationship with other organisations such as the International Alliance, the foreign Co-operative movements, the Trade Union movement, Government departments, &c. The general work of the Union is ever increasing, more and more committees are appointed and meetings are held more frequently, all of which involve an increasing amount of work in the preparing of their business and the carrying out of the decisions of the various committees.

Reconstitution of the Joint Parliamentary Committee.—The Congress at Liverpool instructed the Central Board to prepare a scheme for the reorganisation of the Joint Parliamentary Committee, and this scheme will be submitted for the approval of the 1919 Congress. When adopted, the Union will have a larger representation on the committee, but will have to pay three-fifths of the total expenditure of the committee, where it now pays only one-third.

The Survey Committee.—The Survey Committee have made several recommendations regarding the Union and its work, and the adoption of the recommendations, whilst it will lead to the utility of the Union being increased, will, no doubt, lead to increased expenditure. One of the most important of their recommendations is the setting up of a permanent or, rather, whole-time executive, which would be re-elected at certain intervals. It would be salaried and devote its whole time to the Union work. The appointment of this whole-time executive would lead to the saving of much expense now incurred for meetings of various special committees, but it would probably lead, on the whole, to an increased expenditure—it need not be very great—of the Union. For this increased expenditure, the Union and the movement would be recompensed by improved administration. The reports of the Survey Committee contain in greater detail the recommendations regarding the future work of the Union and of the various departments which it is suggested should be organised at the Union's headquarters.

Sectional Boards and District Associations.—A large part of the increase in the Union's expenditure during recent years has been due to the increased activity and expenditure of Sectional Boards and District Associations. They have been called upon to undertake a greater amount and a greater variety of work than in the past, and their expenditure has increased as a result. There is little likelihood that the limits of their expenditure have been reached, as they are being called upon to an increasing extent by societies desiring assistance, and the variety as well as the magnitude of their work continues to increase. There are now six whole-time sectional secretaries.

36. CENTRAL PREMISES.

The work of the Union has grown so rapidly within the last two or three years that a greatly increased staff has been necessary, and to make provision for the extension of the educational department, we have been compelled to utilise part of the lecture hall for housing some of the sections of the Educational Staff.

This has resulted in our being compelled to curtail the letting of the hall to some of our trade union friends, who formerly held meetings which occupied the whole of the Lecture Hall; nevertheless the rooms have been very fully used by the educational department of the Union, and the Associations closely allied with the Union, and many of the local branches of trade unions.

In the last two reports mention was made of the probability of an advance being made in the direction of enlarging the present premises, and now that those members of the staff who have been on active service have returned it has given rise to the question being further discussed by the United Board, and they agree that such an extension is necessary and have remitted the matter to the Office Committee to make the necessary inquiries and to report as soon as possible.

The societies members of the Union kindly provided the funds to erect the Holyoake Memorial, and donations were made at the rate of 3d. per member; the payments being spread over a number of years which resulted in the sum of £25,807 being raised for this purpose, and if the societies would again make a similar grant it would enable the Union to more than double its present accommodation and provide for the further developments foreshadowed in the programme of the Union and of the Survey Committee.

GENERAL MATTERS.

37. NATIONAL POLICY.

At the Swansea Congress the Central Board submitted a statement of National Co-operative Policy and a National Co-operative Programme for the ensuing Congress year, and at the Liverpool Congress the policy and programme were further considered and amended, the Central Board recommending the concentration of the movement during 1918-19 on certain items in the programme. In issuing the programme for a third year the Central Board recommend the concentration of effort upon the items indicated by italics.

(a) NATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE POLICY.

(THIRD YEAR.)

This statement may be taken as a declaration of policy which, in the opinion of the Co-operative Union Congress, should guide co-operative societies in their various activities. It is not put forward as a complete statement of the points upon which a national policy might be declared; but as the beginning of the formation of such a policy. Revision and addition from time to time will be necessary.

POINTS OF THE POLICY.

1. MEMBERSHIP.

Membership of a retail distributive society should be open, *i.e.*, membership should be permitted to as many members of a family as care to join.

2. ENTRANCE FEES.

To be low.

3. CAPITAL.

No restrictions on the accumulation of capital, by fixing a limit to the amount a member may hold.

Members to be required to hold at least the minimum amount of share capital required by the rules of their society.

The removal of the £200 limit now imposed by the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts upon members' share holding.

The development of small-savings banks.

The removal of the restriction of £20 limit on small-savings deposits or the increase of the present maximum of £50.

4. PRICES.

Prices not to exceed the current prices of the district.

5. RESERVE FUNDS.

Reserve funds to equal at least 20 per cent of share and loan capital.

6. CREDIT.

Cash payments in all transactions.

7. DEPRECIATION.

Depreciation to be at the rate of at least $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent on buildings and shops; 10 per cent on fixed stock and plant; and 20 per cent on rolling stock. Depreciation to be based on original values.

8. LABOUR.

The payment of at least the trade-union district rate of wages for the occupation, or the minimum rate as approved by Congress from time to time, whichever is higher. The recognition of the trade-union local standard of hours and general conditions of labour as a minimum in each occupation.

9. OVERLAPPING.

The removal of overlapping. The marking of boundaries or the amalgamation of competing societies where boundaries cannot be fixed or where amalgamation will lead to greater efficiency.

10. RAW MATERIALS.

The acquisition and co-operative ownership of sources of supply of raw materials.

11. EDUCATION.

The encouragement and development of co-operative education.

12. HOUSING.

The better housing of the people.

13. POLITICAL PROGRAMME.

The achievement of the co-operative political programme adopted at the London Emergency Conference, October, 1917.

14. REPRESENTATION OF CO-OPERATORS.

The direct representation of co-operators in Parliament and on local governing and administrative bodies.

(b) POINTS FOR A NATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE PROGRAMME
FOR THE CONGRESS YEAR, 1918-1919.

*(It is suggested that attention during the year be concentrated
on the items given in italics.)*

MEMBERSHIP.

Open membership to be encouraged. Societies to be circularised and visited. Efforts to be made to increase membership.

CAPITAL.

Societies to be urged to persuade members to deposit capital and leave their dividends and interest with their society. Societies to be pressed to establish or develop small-savings banks, and to remove all restriction on the accumulation of share and loan capital.

TRADE AND LOYALTY.

Societies to be urged to appoint canvassers to keep in touch with their members, particularly when their purchases are falling; and to stimulate loyalty by educational work and by improving business efficiency.

BUSINESS EFFICIENCY.

Societies to be urged to improve the efficiency of their business administration by keeping in touch with new and improved methods, by encouraging the technical training of their employees, and by securing better co-ordination between various departments.

DEPRECIATION AND RESERVES.

Societies to be urged to depreciate liberally and increase reserves.

DIVIDENDS AND PRICES.

Societies to be recommended not to increase dividends, but to keep prices down.

EXTENSIONS AFTER THE WAR.

Societies to be pressed to prepare schemes for extending co-operative distributive and productive activities.

INSURANCE AND BANKING.

The undertaking of propaganda for the extension of co-operative insurance and banking.

EDUCATION.

Stimulating all forms of educational effort, including salesmen's classes, lectures to managers, and lectures to committees.

Securing a better connection and greater co-ordination of effort between the general committee, the education committee, and other organisations of retail distributive societies.

Propaganda to be carried on to create public opinion in favour of a greatly improved system of national education.

PROPAGANDA, ORGANISATION, AND ADMINISTRATION.

Arrangement of a national propaganda to increase membership, capital, and trade (see special scheme).

Appointment of organisers on the Union staff for propaganda, organising, and administrative purposes.

POST-WAR PROBLEMS AND RECONSTRUCTION.

Arranging conferences for the discussion of specially-prepared papers on post-war problems and reconstruction.

Arranging classes on post-war problems and reconstruction; the Co-operative Union—

- (a) *To arrange classes for training speakers and teachers of classes in these subjects, and*
- (b) *To arrange (jointly with local societies) members' classes in these subjects all over the country.*

HOUSING

The creation of opinion in regard to the better housing of the people and the stimulating of public authorities to undertake housing schemes.

INCOME TAX.

Preparation and circulation of literature on this subject.

Arrangement of meetings, lectures, and classes on this subject all over the country, to be taken by the trained speakers and teachers suggested below.

Arrangement of training classes for speakers and teachers to be employed for lectures, conferences, and classes on Income Tax.

LITERATURE.

The preparation of necessary literature required for carrying out the above programme, and particularly the preparation of papers on—

- (a) *The National Programme and its Realisation.*
- (b) *Post-War Problems and Reconstruction.*
- (c) *Co-operative Capital.*
- (d) *Housing.*

GENERAL.

The programme to be first discussed by the United Board, the Sectional Boards, and Congress; and afterwards by the Sectional Boards with their District Association Executives, and by these executives with the committees of the societies in their district.

The General Secretary of the Union to confer with Sectional Secretaries and explain and discuss methods of carrying out the programme.

The papers prepared on the programme to be discussed at least once by each section and district conference association. Organisers to be appointed on the Union staff and to be employed in visiting societies in the various sections to assist in carrying out the national programme, keeping in touch with the sectional boards and the Union headquarters. Frequent conferences to be held of all sectional secretaries and organisers with headquarters staff.

38. LABOUR DEPARTMENT.

(a) LABOUR ADVISER.

The Labour Adviser commenced his duties with the Co-operative Union on 1st June, 1918, and from that date the department has been fully occupied with wages questions arising in different parts of the country.

Whitley Councils have been formed in connection with several industries. The securing of adequate co-operative representation on these joint and district Councils is an important matter. The question as to the position of the Co-operative Movement in regard to these councils is a somewhat doubtful one, as so far our representatives have been classed on the employers' side, but in some cases private employers object on the ground that we are distributors and not producers for profit, whilst on the other hand the employees contend that we are employers.

It is too soon to express an opinion on the advantages of these councils, but so far they do not seem as though they would bring about the expected results. The joint council for the painting trade has a rule which in our opinion is not in accord with co-operative principles, and the assistance of the joint committee of trade-unionists and co-operators is being sought in the matter.

Several councils for trades in which societies have employees have been formed and upon which we have no representatives, and as these councils can at any time make an application for their decisions to receive the sanction of law our policy in regard to them should be determined.

When the application of the transport workers for an additional war bonus was referred to the Committee on Production, many societies having received notice of the demand communicated with the Union asking what was being doing in the matter, suggesting that the Union should ask to be allowed to put the case for co-operative societies before the committee. It was found that this could not be done unless we became parties to the terms of reference, and with the consent of the parties concerned this was done. The time between receiving permission and the date of hearing was too short for circulars to be sent to all societies, we therefore gathered what information we could, and this our representative placed before the committee.

When the award was made, the question of whether it was enforceable under the Munitions Act arose, and acting upon information obtained to the effect that the decisions of the committee carried a legal penalty, societies were advised accordingly. This position being questioned we took up the matter with the

Industrial Commissioners, and in reply they stated that whilst some of the awards of the committee came under the Munitions Act, this one did not.

In July, 1918, a dispute between the A.U.C.E. and the societies in the West Riding of Yorkshire was referred to the Committee on Production. An award was given in September, but a supplementary hearing took place upon several points arising out of the award. The net results were satisfactory from the societies' point of view. The Labour Adviser appeared on both occasions on behalf of the societies and stated their case.

The establishing of a uniform log for boot repairing in the West Riding was also referred to an arbitrator appointed by the Ministry, and his decision is now in operation over the area.

Several employees in the café of Derby Society having been suspended for refusing to carry out the duties assigned to them by the committee, the A.U.C.E. requested that they should be reinstated, and, as the committee refused, the case was referred to the Ministry, and they appointed Mr. C. Doughty as arbitrator. After hearing the evidence the committee offered to find temporary work for the females and the Union accepted the offer.

On two occasions the services of the Labour Adviser have been instrumental in preventing a withdrawal of labour after strike notices had been handed in.

(b) HOURS AND WAGES BOARDS.

The constitution of hours and wages boards in all the sections is now completed. In some districts each society has a representative on the board; in others the board is composed of eight or ten elected members, together with a representative each from the sectional board and the district association executive. Whilst some of the boards have not had many meetings, others, particularly in the North-Western Section, have been very busy.

The boards have been very effective in dealing with the many phases of labour unrest that have arisen in the movement during the year, and the best work has been done by those boards in whom the societies have placed full confidence. With the idea of co-ordinating the decisions of the various boards in the section, and of dealing with questions that are common to a larger area than that covered by a district board, there has been formed in the North-Western Section an executive from the various boards. The results so far have justified this step being taken, as there is now one uniform rate of war wages throughout the West Riding of Yorkshire, and one rate for boot repairing over the same area. With the exception of Liverpool district, there is also one uniform rate for boot repairing covering both Lancashire and Cheshire.

(c) CONCILIATION BOARDS.

1.—NATIONAL.

The first meeting of the Board was held on the 1st May, 1918, at which a telegram received from the Chief Industrial Commissioner was read stating that owing to short notice they had not found it practicable to appoint an arbitrator. It was resolved to proceed with the meeting, and Mr. R. J. Wilson was appointed

chairman. The question of cases being referred to the National Board before they had been before the District Boards was considered, and it was resolved that the Co-operative Union be requested to take steps to ensure that in future all cases must first be considered by the District Boards.

1. The A.U.C.E. having made an application for an increased bonus to societies in the Rossendale district, and the wages board having failed to arrive at a settlement, this matter came before the National Board, but as the representatives of the societies declined to proceed with the case, owing to the absence of an independent chairman, it was adjourned until the next meeting.

2. The Birkenhead, Liverpool, St. Helens, and Warrington societies having failed to come to terms with the A.U.C.E. the case was submitted to the National Board. The absence of an independent chairman was explained, but they agreed to allow the case to proceed, and if an agreement could be arrived at to accept it. After the case had been stated the Board endeavoured to come to an arrangement but failed to do so. It was then decided to adjourn the case until an independent chairman would be present.

3. Hartlepoons case heard at the last meeting. A letter was read from the No. 7 District, Northern Section, Wages Advisory Board respecting a resolution passed at the last meeting. After consideration the previous resolution was reaffirmed.

4. The Neath Abbey and Skewen society questioned the authority of the Board to arrive at certain conclusions. The reply of the secretary was approved.

5. The correspondence that had passed between the Dewsbury District Wages Board, Mr. W. R. Robertson, and the General Secretary of the Union was read, the A.U.C.E. representatives claiming that the matter had not been satisfactorily settled.

6. Ynysybwll society asked for an interpretation of a clause in the award given in the South Wales case, and the reply of the General Secretary was submitted and approved. A meeting of the Board was held at Manchester, on 30th May, 1918, to consider the cases adjourned from last meeting, Mr. W. A. Robertson, Ministry of Labour, presiding.

7. The case of the Birkenhead, Liverpool, St. Helens, and Warrington societies, and the A.U.C.E., was again stated before the Board, and award given.

8. The Rossendale case, adjourned from the last meeting, was heard, and after due consideration an advance of war bonus was given.

9. Several points raised by the Dewsbury Wages Board, arising out of the Askwith award to carters were considered, and the Board were unanimously of opinion that as the A.U.C.E. were parties to an agreement entered into in July, 1917, they should be dealt with as well as the Carters' Union.

10. The A.U.C.E. brought the case of the Hartlepoons society before the independent chairman, with a view to seeing how the award could be enforced, and he advised them to communicate with the Ministry of Labour. A meeting of the Board was held at Manchester on 26th July, 1918. Again the independent chairman telegraphed his inability to be present, and Mr. W. Gregory was appointed chairman.

11. A difference as to the terms of an award made 10th April having arisen, and as the parties could not agree, it was remitted to the National Board for a decision, several of the points were mutually settled, but the case of boot managers and repairers was left to the Board. After hearing the evidence and giving it consideration a guaranteed minimum wage was granted to the managers.

2.—DISTRICT CONCILIATION BOARDS.

The following cases have been considered by the various district Conciliation Boards.

(a) MIDLAND.

1. At Leicester, in February, 1919, to consider an application from the A.U.C.E. for an increase of war bonus to employees in the Leicestershire district. In this case an agreement was arrived at.

2. At Nottingham, on the 10th March, 1919, to consider a case referred by the joint district wages boards of Derbyshire, Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire, and the A.U.C.E. for an increase of war bonus to employees in area covered by the joint boards, an agreement on similar terms to the Leicester award was come to.

3. At Burton, on 31st March, 1919, the A.U.C.E., having made a demand for higher rates of bonus for the Birmingham, Coventry, and Stafford districts, it was agreed to divide the societies into three groups, and a sub-committee of the wages boards and the Union was appointed to allocate the societies. As no agreement could be arrived at in several cases, this, along with the demand for increased bonus, was referred to the Conciliation Board.

The Board placed the two societies in question into Group 1, and transferred one society from Group 2 to Group 3. After determining the amount of increased wages and bonus, it was agreed that societies in Group 2 should pay $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. less than Group 1, and Group 3 should pay 10 per cent less than Group 1.

(b) NORTHERN.

No case from the Northern Board has been reported to the Central office.

(c) NORTH-WESTERN (LANCASHIRE).

1. A case affecting boot repairers at Chester, arising out of an award of the National Board, was heard on 1st July, 1918, upon which the board made an award.

2. The Blackpool society, having received a demand from the A.U.C.E. to which they could not agree, the matter was referred to the Conciliation Board, which met on 1st and 16th July, when they granted certain advances, excluding departmental managers.

3. Leyland and Farington society —The A.U.C.E. made an application for bonuses to be added to wages, and an additional bonus to be granted. The society referred the question to the district wages board, but, as they could not come to an agreement with the A.U.C.E., it was sent on to the Conciliation Board, when the Union accepted the offer the wages board had previously made.

4 A demand, similar to that made upon the Leyland society, was made to the Preston society. The wages board, not being able to bring about an agreement, the case was referred to the Conciliation Board, which met on 20th and 30th August, 1918, and came to a decision.

5. A demand for increased bonuses was made upon fifteen societies in the Rossendale district who referred the matter to the district wages board. As they were unable to come to an agreement, they passed it on to the Conciliation Board, which met on 22nd November, and made an award.

6. The A.U.C.E. requested the Leigh, Hindsford, and Tyldesley societies to pay male rates to female manageresses. As it was clearly proved that the females were not doing the same work as was done by male managers, the board could not grant the request, but awarded a small increase in wages.

7. Macclesfield and Crewe district.—This area is divided into three groups, and the A.U.C.E. made a demand upon all the societies. The district wages board first tried to bring about a settlement but failed to do so, and the board on 4th March, 1919, made an award, which will make the rates in the district more uniform.

YORKSHIRE DISTRICT.

This board met 1st July, to give an interpretation of an award, previously given, so far as it related to certain employees of the Brighouse society.

(d) SCOTTISH.

The Scottish board met on 28th February, 1919, to hear a case which had been referred to them by the Stirling, West of Fife, and Clackmannan District Association wages board and the A.U.C.E., affecting societies in the area. An advance of wages was agreed upon.

(e) SOUTHERN.

1. The Peterborough society and the A.U.C.E. referred an application for increased bonus to the board, which met on 30th October, 1918, and made an award.

2. A demand for increased bonuses for the employees of the Grays society was heard on 5th March, 1919, and certain advances were arranged.

39. WAR EMERGENCY: WORKERS' NATIONAL COMMITTEE.

This committee has practically ceased to exist, very few meetings having been held during the Congress year. With the close of the war its decess would naturally be expected in respect of the special purpose for which it was set up; but the invaluable work which it has performed will always remain as an example of what could be accomplished if all the working-class forces could be combined in the same way for mutual support.

Of the important matters that could be dealt with at the few meetings held, the most important is the proposal to impose a tax on capital. This tax, known as the "Conscription of Riches," or the "Levy on Capital," is believed by the

members of the committee to be the only way of abolishing the huge burden of debt which weighs upon us all. Writers in the daily press tell us that the nation is much poorer because of the expense of the war; yet the income tax returns show that individuals in the nation own more wealth now than they did before the war. This paradox is explained by the fact that the paper of the National Debt is viewed as "wealth" or "capital" by those who hold it. Upon this paper interest of at least five per cent has to be paid, and it can only be paid out of the productions of the working classes, who are daily and hourly urged to more and more production. It is not exaggeration to say that without a levy on capital to liquidate the National Debt the nation will head for bankruptcy.

The committee took steps to counter the efforts of landlords who tried to evade the Rent Restriction Act; urged upon the Government the necessity of increasing separation allowances, pensions, &c.; expressed the opinion that soldiers and sailors should receive not less than 5s. per day pay; and protested against the action of the Food Ministry in issuing an Order relating to the formation of Local Food Committees without submitting it to the Consumers' Council. In regard to the last point the committee insisted that due representation of co-operative societies should be provided for, and recorded its dissatisfaction with the inadequate representation secured to the co-operative movement.

With respect to the Rent Restriction Act a report was prepared and sent to the Ministry of Reconstruction, showing the urgent necessity of immediate steps being taken to push on with the building of a million new cottages in order to prevent the working classes being exploited by rent-raising landlords after the war.

After experience on this committee, your representatives beg respectfully to state that, in their opinion, a similar committee, established to watch over the welfare of the working classes in the same disinterested spirit as characterised this committee would have incalculably good effect upon their prosperity in the future.

M. A. GASSON.

B. WILLIAMS.

40. ORGANISATION OF ALLOTMENTS AND ALLOTMENT HOLDERS.

Last year we reported that we had communicated with the societies, urging them to give assistance by organising allotment holders and stimulating the demand for more land. Many societies acted upon our suggestion, and, as a result, several allotment holders' societies were formed.

During the past year we have again taken up the matter, dealing more particularly with the problem of disposing of the surplus produce from the allotments. If societies would get into touch with allotment holders and allotment associations in their districts, with a view to taking the surplus produce for sale in the co-operative shops, and also becoming the medium

through which they may obtain their supplies of seeds, manures, implements, &c., much good work could be accomplished, to the advantage of both the individual allotment holder and the members of the distributive societies.

We have realised that agencies are at work to make co-operation between our societies and the allotments associations difficult, if not impossible; it is, therefore, important that steps should be taken at once, so as to safeguard our own societies' interests and the interests of those allotment holders who are already members of the local distributive societies.

The Co-operative Union will be prepared to assist in registering any allotment society that may be formed.

41. INCOME TAX INQUIRY.

In accordance with the resolution adopted at last Congress, instructing the Central Board to establish a committee of inquiry into the question of taxation and assessment of co-operative societies, the following gentlemen were appointed viz. :—

Alderman F. Hayward (Chairman); Messrs. T. W. Allen (Chairman, Joint Parliamentary Committee); G. Briggs (Leeds); J. Deans (Scottish Sectional Secretary); H. J. May (Secretary, Joint Parliamentary Committee); Dr. W. A. S. San Garde (Solicitor); J. Sharples (Blackburn); N. H. Cooper (Cashier, Co-operative Union); Prof. F. Hall, M.A. (Adviser of Studies); and A. Whitehead (General Secretary).

The committee has met on three occasions. At the first meeting the terms of reference were considered. These were very wide, as the resolution "empowered the committee to consult experts and undertake any action germane to the inquiry."

It is not considered advisable to give details of the deliberations of the committee and of the matters considered, but we may say that special attention has been given to the charges made upon co-operative societies under Schedules A and B. A circular was issued to all societies asking for certain information, and, notwithstanding three applications, many societies have not responded to our request. This is regrettable, as it is imperative that the committee should be supplied with full data to enable them to compile statistical information which may be of service when societies are attacked. Opinion of eminent counsel has been obtained on certain matters upon which the committee required information, and in every instance the opinion of our legal adviser has been verified.

The committee has decided that a statement should be prepared for submitting to the Royal Commission on the Income Tax, and has suggested the names of Mr. T. Brodrick (Secretary of the C.W.S.) and Mr. N. H. Cooper (Cashier, Co-operative Union) to give evidence before the commission.

42. NATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE WAR MEMORIAL.

The Central Board has had under consideration the question of a National Co-operative War Memorial, and whilst realising that co-operative societies

would be expected to subscribe to local memorials, it was felt that there should be some National Memorial in honour of the many employees and members of co-operative societies who have made the supreme sacrifice during the war.

Several suggestions have been considered as to the form such a memorial should take, but it was ultimately decided to refer the matter to Congress and ask for the approval of the delegates to a memorial; the details as to the form to be decided later when the Co-operative Union had fully considered various schemes, these to be communicated to societies for their approval.

RESOLUTION.

That this Congress approves the provision of a National Co-operative War Memorial, and instructs the Central Board to propose a scheme or schemes, and submit same to the society members at the earliest opportunity.

LEGAL MATTERS.

43. POWERS OF CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES TO MAKE GRANTS FOR POLITICAL PURPOSES.

A case has been decided in the Scottish Courts, which was brought by five members of the Barrhead Co-operative Society, seeking to have determined whether the society is empowered by its rules and by the Act of 1893 to apply sums of money taken from the profits, in promoting the return of co-operative candidates to Parliament and Local Government bodies.

Lord Ormisdale in giving his decision considered in the first instance the powers of the society under the Act, and afterwards dealt with the rules of the society.

He said: "A society which may be registered under the Act is 'a society for carrying on any industries, businesses, or trades specified in or authorised by its rules, whether wholesale or retail, and including dealings of any description with land.'"

Section 10 (1) enacts "The rules of a society registered under this Act shall contain provisions in respect of the several matters mentioned in the second schedule to this Act." Sub-section 10 of Schedule II. reads "Mode of Application of the Profits." Section 10 (6) of the Act enacts "The rules of every society registered under this Act shall provide for the profits being appropriated to any purposes stated therein or determined in such manner as the rules direct."

"The question is whether Section 10 (6) gives the members of a society registered under the Act of 1893 power to vote a portion of its profits to the furtherance of political ends. In my opinion it does. Its terms appear to me to be such as to authorise the society to apply its profits to any purpose (which

is not illegal) specified in or directed by its rules." He goes even further, for he says that "the only limitation in Section 10 (6) is that the purposes (to which profits are to be applied) must be stated in the rules or determined in such manner as the rules direct. This limitation, and no other, is expressed. Such being the case there is no room, or indeed right, to imply any further limitation from the remaining provisions of the statute, such as that the purposes must be, as it was phrased in argument, ancillary to the trade or business; the carrying on of which gave the society the right to be registered."

Having arrived at this opinion, his lordship had then to consider whether the rules of the Barrhead Society had been framed in such a way as to give them the powers which he had found it was competent for them under the Act to take by an appropriately framed rule. On this part of the case he has found against the society, because in his opinion their rules are not framed so as to give them the power in question.

The decision is quite clear that societies can by a properly framed rule make grants for *any* purpose, and the Co-operative Union is preparing a rule under which there can in the future be no doubt. This will be incorporated in the general rules issued by the Union, and societies will be supplied with a draft copy to meet the case, and which they can adopt.

BENEVOLENT FUNDS.

44. THE BLANDFORD MEMORIAL.

The amount contributed by the delegates attending the Liverpool Congress on behalf of the Blandford Memorial Fund, was £76. 18s. 2d. Of this amount £20 was allocated to scholarships awarded in connection with the Advanced Examination in Co-operation, held under the auspices of the Educational Department. These scholarships have been awarded to Mr. E. V. Davies (Gillingham) and Mr. T. McLeod (Liverpool).

The Reception Committee has not, at the time of writing this report, decided as to what form the Memorial shall take, but it is expected that a decision will be come to shortly.

In future, one-half the Blandford Fund collected at the Congress will be devoted to a memorial and the remainder to co-operative scholarships to be awarded through the Central Education Committee.

45. MINNIE PIT (STAFFORDSHIRE) COLLIERY DISASTER.

As a result of the appeal issued by the Union for donations in aid of the sufferers by the disastrous colliery explosion at Halmerend, Staffs., the sum of £2,499. 3s. was realised.

Several other funds were opened in the district, from which temporary grants were being made. As a result of the efforts of the sub-committee appointed by the Union to consider how best to control the fund, a joint meeting of representatives from the various funds met at Stoke, and after considering several recommendations it was decided to amalgamate the various funds under one controlling authority, and a representative local committee was appointed, upon which Alderman F. Hayward (chairman of the United Board) acts as the Co-operative Union's representative, and the general secretary (Mr. A. Whitehead) was elected one of the trustees.

46. BRITISH RED CROSS AND ORDER OF ST. JOHN.

In response to the request for assistance towards the above fund, which was inaugurated by Captain Sir Denis Bayley, for the transport of sick and wounded soldiers on the various battle fronts, we were enabled to hand over the sum of £1,010. 5s. to this most necessary work. In acknowledging the receipt, Sir Denis spoke very appreciatively of the readiness of co-operative societies to assist in any charitable work undertaken for the alleviation of distress or suffering.

47. ANGLO-RUSSIAN HOSPITAL FUND.

The amount which we received from societies on behalf of this fund, viz., £1,314. 7s., is still in the bank, and shown in our balance sheet as a liability. Owing to the Revolution in Russia the disposal of the fund has not been decided upon.

48. BELGIAN DISTRESS FUND.

On the outbreak of war, when so many Belgian refugees were coming to Great Britain, the Co-operative Union issued an appeal to all societies for donations to assist in housing them or finding provisions through the local co-operative societies. This fund was drawn upon as long as necessary, but, eventually, the refugees found employment, therefore demands from societies ceased. There is still remaining a balance of £3,193. 1s. 9d., which amount the United Board has decided shall be added to the amount received from societies on behalf of the rebuilding of the Belgian and French co-operative societies which have suffered through the invasion of the enemy.

49. BELGIAN AND FRENCH FUND.

In response to the appeal issued by the Union during 1915, on behalf of the co-operative societies in the devastated areas of north and north-east France and Belgium, the sum of £2,651. 15s. 9d. was subscribed. This sum is almost insignificant when we come to consider the terrible position of the countries. A deputation from the Union has visited some portion of the district, and their report appears under the head of "Foreign Congresses" in this report.

It has been decided that a further appeal should be made to all societies, and it is hoped that the response to this will be most generous. We feel sure that if the terrible position of the co-operative societies in these regions could only be brought home to the members of societies they would be prepared to do all in their power to render assistance. If societies would subscribe at the rate of 2d. or 3d. per member a fair amount could be raised; but, no matter what the total subscriptions may be, it would be totally inadequate to make good even a tithe of the damage done to the societies.

A special inter-allied committee has been set up, and to that committee will be entrusted the allocation of the total amounts subscribed in all countries. The appeal will be issued to societies at an early date, and we wish to impress upon the delegates present the urgent needs of not only Belgium and France but also of Serbia and Roumania, and we trust they will on their return use their influence with their local societies for a generous response.

UNIVERSITY EDUCATION.

50. THE CO-OPERATIVE SCHOLARSHIPS.

(a) HUGHES SCHOLARSHIP.

Mr. P. H. Smith, of Edinburgh, who was the successful student for the Hughes Scholarship in 1915, has now been demobilised from the army, and has intimated his intention to take up residence at Oriel College, in October this year.

(b) NEALE SCHOLARSHIP.

The Neale Scholarship fell vacant in 1917, and, acting on the recommendation of the Central Education Committee, the United Board decided that during continuation of the war no examination should be held for this scholarship. In order that possible candidates now in the army may have an opportunity of applying for the Scholarship, the Central Education Committee recommended that there should be no examination for it this year, but that the examination be resumed in the ordinary course in May of next year (1920.) To this course the United Board agreed. It should be noted that students who would have been eligible for the examinations in 1917, 1918, or 1919 will still be considered eligible for the examinations of 1920, even though at that time they have attained the age of 21. The authorities at Oriel College have intimated, through the Provost, that they have no objection to this course of action being taken. An announcement of the arrangements for the examination will be made in due course.

In view of the increased cost of living, a suggestion has been made to the United Board that provision should be made to increase the value of the scholarships, and this matter is now under the consideration of the United Board and the

trustees of the scholarships. At present, each scholarship is of the value of £100 per annum, and is tenable for three years, with the possibility of its continuation for a fourth year if the conduct and progress of the student are satisfactory.

CONNECTION WITH OTHER BODIES.

51.—FOREIGN CONGRESS.

The French Co-operative Congress, held in Paris, 22nd to 24th September, 1918.

REPORT BY MR. C. A. W. SAXTON.

As the only representative of British co-operators I attended, on behalf of the Co-operative Union, the Fifth National Congress of the Federation of French Distributive Societies, which was held in Paris on 22nd, 23rd, and 24th September, 1918.

After the usual formalities I obtained my passport and travelled *via* Southampton and Le Havre on Thursday, 19th September, the sea trip occupying eleven hours—a marked contrast to quick pre-war journey *via* Dover and Calais.

Arriving at Le Havre on the Friday morning I spent the day in the French seaport, the train service not permitting me to proceed to Paris until the evening. There is a very successful co-operative society at Le Havre, and through the courtesy of Mons. F. Dauvin—who was a delegate to the Congress and whose acquaintance I there made—I had an opportunity of visiting several branches of the society, of which Mons. Dauvin is the secretary, and my observations convinced me of the possibilities of trade between the co-operators of France and our own productive societies and the Co-operative Wholesale Society.

It was late when I arrived in Paris on the Friday night, and through faulty telegraphic communication, owing to the war, a wire sent by me to Mons. Poisson at 9 a.m. on Friday from Le Havre did not reach him until the same hour the following morning, consequently I had no one to meet me. A message on the telephone on Saturday morning soon brought our good friend Mons. Daudé Bancel, accompanied by Mons. Lyon, to my assistance.

After paying a visit to the office of the French Co-operative Union I had to prepare a speech which I was expected to make at a dinner given in the evening to members of what we should term the Central Board. The dinner was served in a splendidly equipped newly-built restaurant, and was in connection with the opening ceremony. Prior to the dinner I attended a meeting of the Central Board, which was held to make the final arrangements for the Congress.

The Congress was held in the Co-operative Hall, La Bellevilloise, Rue Boyer, Paris. Mons. Albert Thomas (the well-known Labour leader and co-operator, and at one time Minister of Munitions in the French Government) presided at the opening session on Sunday, 22nd September. The first business was the official reception of the foreign delegates, consisting of two—Mons. Paulsen (representing Belgium) and myself. On being called upon first I conveyed in a short address the fraternal greetings of the British co-operators to our French comrades, and expressed the hope that when this terrible war was over the combined action of co-operators would prevent such a catastrophe ever being again possible. I also expressed the opinion that the joint action of our two nations during the war would be the means of cementing the *entente cordiale* during the coming years of peace.

Mons. Paulsen then conveyed the greetings of the Belgian co-operators who had suffered so much through the war, and he, together with myself, was received with enthusiasm.

Mons. Albert Thomas then delivered his presidential address, which was given in true French style, full of enthusiasm, with great hopes of a brilliant future for co-operation, not only in France, but throughout the world. His address, which occupied nearly an hour, was frequently punctuated by cheers from the delegates, and at the close he received quite an ovation.

Sunday afternoon was taken up in considering the report which was introduced by the General Secretary, Mons. Poisson, who, in a speech full of hope, referred to the progress made during the past year despite many difficulties and to the prospects for the future.

On Monday a long discussion took place on the question of food supplies, and reference was made to the assistance rendered by the co-operators of France to the Government during the war, and to the fact that the services of prominent co-operators had been sought and willingly rendered on various national committees. A resolution was adopted urging the Government and municipalities to make still further use of co-operative societies as a means of distributing food to the people; and Congress received with enthusiasm a statement that the French Government intended to call upon the co-operative movement for the supply of provisions to the population in the liberated areas in Northern France, and for the establishment of large bakeries, butcheries, and co-operative restaurants in the principal towns.

Employers' canteens, established for use of staffs during the war, notwithstanding that same were condemned by the law of 1910, were the subject for discussion, and on the motion of Mons. Ramadier it was resolved to demand that the authorities apply the law of 1910 and compel the employers to gradually transform these canteens into legally constituted co-operative societies.

Like ourselves the French societies desire more capital, and Mons. Gaston Lavy reported on the various means to be employed with a view of increasing the capital, firstly, by alteration of rules so as to allow members to increase the total amount of shares that might be held. Secondly, by giving better

facilities for receiving deposits in the savings banks, to be withdrawable on demand, or at the term of notice allowed by the Co-operative Wholesale Bank. Thirdly, by an appeal for State and municipal loans. By these means it is expected they will be able to provide additional capital necessary for future development now the war is a thing of the past.

A long discussion took place on the question of amalgamation, in which Mons. Nast (a French lawyer) took a prominent part, he being imbued with the same idea as the late Mr. J. C. Gray, in his presidential address at Birmingham Congress when he advocated a National Society. No definite conclusion was arrived at, the question being deferred until next Congress.

During my visit I had an opportunity of inspecting the system of cold storage adopted by the co-operators of Paris in dealing with the supplies of meat to the populace under Government supervision, the same being in every way up to date.

I also had an opportunity of visiting the French Co-operative Wholesale Society's depôts in Paris. This wholesale society was only established in 1906, and the turnover for the first year was less than 2,000,000 francs, whereas in the year 1917-18 the receipts reached 42,000,000 francs—a marvellous development, after taking into consideration the advance in prices.

I was much impressed by the cheerfulness of our French comrades, and the optimism displayed with regard to the future.

Report of the Inter-Allied Conference held at Paris, 7th and 8th February, 1919.

REPORT BY MESSRS. F. HAYWARD and A. WHITEHEAD.

In accordance with the decision of the United Board Messrs. F. Hayward and A. Whitehead attended the above-named Conference on 7th and 8th February, at Paris.

Representatives attended from the following countries :—Great Britain, France, Italy, United States, Belgium, Greece, Czecho-Slovakia, and Russia. The International Co-operative Alliance was also represented by Mr. W. Maxwell and Mr. H. J. May.

British co-operative organisations were represented as under :—

Co-operative UnionMessrs. Whitehead and Hayward.

English C.W.S.Messrs. Golightly and Hemingway.

Scottish C.W.S.Messrs. Bardner and Macintosh.

Irish C.W.S.Messrs. Byrne and Smith.

The Conference assembled at the headquarters of the French Co-operative Movement in Paris, and Professor Charles Gide presided. In welcoming the delegates the Professor referred to the important subjects the Conference was convened to consider, and urged that the future Society of Nations could only depend for its support on such international commercial relations being established as would represent the general interests of the consumers of each country.

Representatives of each nation made short speeches of greeting, and in some cases gave interesting details of co-operative development in their respective countries. The representative from Greece stated that the new *Venizelos Government* had passed a law making it an offence for private interests to oppose the growth of co-operation. This seems to indicate that in Greece at least co-operation has secured substantial State recognition.

The business of the Conference had been divided under three heads, and a separate memorandum was submitted on each. To facilitate the consideration of same it was decided to divide the delegates into two commissions which could sit simultaneously and consider the various matters, and afterwards report to a full meeting of the conference.

Commission No. 1 had referred to it the question as to the "Influence of the Peace Treaty on the Economic Relations between the Peoples and Co-operation."

No. 2 Commission considered two matters. 1st, "The best means of unifying co-operative effort to assist in re-establishing co-operation in the countries devastated by the war," and, 2nd, "The International Commercial relations to be established between the Central Organisations of the International Co-operative Alliance."

Mr. Hayward represented the Union on the No. 1 Commission, and Mr. Whitehead on the No. 2. Deliberations in committee continued throughout Friday and on Saturday morning, and the reports were afterwards submitted by each committee to the full Conference. No. 1 presented a long report, the following being a summary of the recommendations which were to be urged upon the representatives of the various Governments assembled in Paris for the Peace Conference :—

1. The maintenance and extension of the functions and powers of the Inter-Allied Committees on Food Control, in order to maintain equitable distribution of foodstuffs according to the world supplies and the needs of each country.
2. The inter-allied control of transport of merchandise, whether by land or by water, the fixing of maximum rates for freight and insurance, and the fixing of maximum prices of all foodstuffs when the Governments do not wish to assume complete control of the enterprise.
3. The collaboration of the public authorities with the co-operative organisations of each country to ensure equitable distribution and reasonable prices of goods imported in common, and of all other merchandise.
4. The establishment of an International Bureau of Economic Statistics in the matter of food supplies, as a means of co-ordinating and directing the Inter-Allied Food Control Committees. This office, by its knowledge of the requirements, resources, conditions of distribution, and production of each country, would prepare for the economic co-operation of, and division of work amongst, the peoples of all nations after the war.

5. The conclusion of a complete commercial treaty—or of commercial agreements comprising a general system—between all the countries, capital and colonial, which will form part of the League of Nations, and which will have the effect of placing them on an equal footing. Consequently customs tariffs should be levied solely for fiscal purposes and not for protection; if export bounties are established they should be of an exceptional and temporary character.
6. The multiplication of facilities of exchange; the exchange of the products of capital and labour, particularly the unification of social laws, of weights, measures, money and facilities for correspondence and travel, and residence in foreign countries.
7. The adoption of an international financial system for the liquidation of war debts, in order to avoid disastrous reaction on the cost of living and the unregulated increase of prices.
8. The consideration in common by the nations of great economic projects for the development of civilisation (such as the Channel Tunnel, &c.), which should be realised by the collaboration, and under control, of representatives of associated consumers, unaided by profit-seeking private firms.

The memorandum and recommendations were adopted, except that the delegates of the British Wholesale Societies were unable to commit their organisations to the general principle of an economic policy which touched the questions known as "Protection" or "Free Trade" until they had been fully discussed by them and a definite decision taken.

The second committee reported as to the necessity of at once organising co-operative effort in the liberated areas. Before the war there were in the invaded territories of France 867 societies with 342,000 members, and a trade of 140 million francs. The war had reduced these figures to 222 societies with 131,000 members, and a turnover of 45 million francs. Many of the societies had been completely destroyed, while others had been put out of business by the pillaging and requisitioning of their goods by the invading armies. The French Co-operative Union and Wholesale Society are doing all possible to assist in rebuilding the movement in these areas, and it is of the highest importance that a disinterested organisation such as ours should endeavour to meet the needs of the people, and liberate them from the profiteers who have now spread themselves over the newly liberated areas like swarms of locusts. Co-operative goods, food, clothing, &c., are urgently required, and it was unanimously agreed that an Inter-Allied Co-operative Committee be formed forthwith to arrange for the assistance and dispatch of goods to the co-operative societies in the areas devastated by the war.

The committee to be constituted as follows:—Three representatives from Great Britain and Ireland, one representative from the French Co-operative Wholesale Society, one representative from the Belgian Federation, one representative from the Italian Federation, one representative from the Czecho-

Slovak Federation, and, eventually, one representative of each of the wholesale organisations in the countries of the Entente.

A representative of the British Co-operative Union will be added to the committee for the distribution and control of the subscriptions received.

A representative of the International Co-operative Alliance will be added to the committee, in a consultative capacity, and the committee is recommended to invite the presence and advice of the International Co-operative Alliance representative of the country in which the meeting is held.

This committee will centralise the demands and arrange the distribution amongst the different countries by the intermediary of the national wholesale organisations. It will be the duty of the committee to negotiate with the Governments of the respective countries to obtain the necessary licenses of exportation. It should also determine the conditions of credit to be accorded to each nation, but always under guarantees from the National Central Organisation. The first meeting of this committee will be held in London on 4th March.

The third question was also reported upon in the following terms :—

The commercial relations to be established between the Central Co-operative Organisations of the various countries.

“The Inter-Allied Co-operative Congress in confirmation of its resolution of 1916 decided in favour of the establishment of a Bureau of International Statistics and Information. The organisation of the bureau, and also the question of the commercial relations to be established between the different countries, are referred for application to the Inter-Allied Co-operative Committee.”

This recommendation was accepted with unanimity.

Some of the delegates were prepared to go further than the above, and suggested that preliminary steps for the establishment of an International Co-operative Wholesale Organisation should at once be taken. The wholesale societies of Sweden, Norway, and Denmark have already united their purchasing power, and are entering into direct relations with the centres of production under the name of Nordisk Andelsförbund (Northern Co-operative Union).

Close commercial relations also exist between the English and Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Societies, and it was felt that the extension of this work on a wider international basis would be for the good of the movement as a whole. The resolution adopted at the Conference has placed it in the hands of the appointed committee to organise the International Bureau of Statistics and Information, and we hope that it will be possible at an early date to set up an effective International Co-operative Wholesale which shall stimulate co-operative activity in all countries to the mutual good of each.

After the Conference terminated arrangements were made for interviews with the heads of the respective Governments who were in Paris at the Peace Conference, and they were urged to consider in the peace settlement the setting up of such economic arrangements between nations as would protect the

interests of the consumers; and the various points referred to in the report of the first commission were put before them by M. Albert Thomas on behalf of the Inter-Allied Conference of Co-operators. The following were interviewed: M. Clemenceau (France), Mr. A. J. Balfour (Great Britain), Signor Orlando (Italy), Colonel House and Mr. Hoover (United States). All received the deputation most cordially, and definite promises of support for the proposals were made.

The representative of our own nation was probably the least friendly of any who were interviewed. This shows the necessity for a revival of our efforts to educate the politicians of our country as to the principles and practices of the great movement which has grown up in the country, of which at present they appear to be in blissful ignorance.

After the conclusion of these interviews arrangements were made to visit the war zones to see the damage done to the co-operative institutions. By the kindness of M. Clemenceau two military motors cars were placed at our service to take us from Paris to Lille. The weather was bitterly cold and the ground was covered with snow and frozen hard. Under these conditions we started in an open car to do the journey of about 310 kilometres. We were not long after leaving Paris before we saw something of the results of war. At Senlis the invaders entered in 1914, and occupied the town for some days prior to the first battle of the Marne. Allegations were made that some of the population of the town had fired on the German soldiery, and as a punishment the commander ordered that every second two houses in the town should be destroyed, and the order was religiously (or, ought we to say, militarily) obeyed. In addition to this a demand was made upon the Mayor for a certain sum of money to be raised in the town and paid over as tribute to the invaders. This the Mayor resolutely declined to do and he was brought to the market cross and shot. Already a monument marks the spot where he met his death.

From Senlis we went to Compeigne, and here we found the town very badly battered; roofs and fronts of buildings blown away, and among them we found so damaged as to be untenable the premises of the Co-operative Society. The population here is gradually returning, and the movement can be speedily built up again if the necessary means are available. From Compeigne to Noyon the destruction became more complete, and the town of Noyon, which must have been a beautiful town, with magnificent buildings, was one huge ruin. Not a building of any kind has escaped. Houses, churches, everything has shared a common fate, and the town now presents a scene of picturesque ruin which baffles description.

From Noyon we proceeded to Peronne, and thence to Bapaume, and in this much contested area the devastation is still more complete. Whole villages and towns are completely wiped out; the only evidence of their existence being a notice board some three feet high which told that "This was such a place." Not a vestige of building remains, and it would be impossible for the people who used to reside in these places and call it "home" to return and find the spot where their house previously stood.

From Bapaume we proceeded to Arras. Here the place is very badly damaged, but not levelled to the ground as in some of the areas through which we passed. The streets are piled up on either side with the debris of fallen buildings, and just a narrow passage for a motor lorry is cleared. A large British depot is situated here, and the place is alive with the cheery British "Tommys," with many of whom we spoke, and they were delighted to see someone from the old country. Arras had a population of 30,000 in 1914. All had been cleared out as refugees, but some 3,000 had returned and appeared to be living in the basements and lower floors of the buildings which were roofless and badly damaged. Here again co-operation should be re-established as early as possible, and every effort made to supply the necessaries of life for the people who are living under such tragic conditions.

From Arras we proceeded over the Vimy Ridge to Lens, and went through the area where trench warfare had been carried on for so long a period. It was a long trail of death and desolation, and for some miles, apart from parties of German prisoners or Chinese coolies working under French or British control, the only evidence of life was to be seen in the large flocks of carrion crows which hover constantly over the battlefields. The trenches and barbed wire entanglements, the redoubts, dug outs, and pill boxes were there to be seen as monuments of the ingenuity of mankind, and one could only regret that the wonderful inventiveness there displayed should have been used for destruction instead of for the betterment of the race.

Lens is a town no longer. High explosive has reduced it to a field of brick dust, and its mines which used to provide coal to produce warmth and power have been rendered unworkable through the orgy of destruction which passed that way.

La Bassée also was passed through, and we arrived at Lille just as darkness was falling on the evening of 12th February. We had difficulty in securing any accommodation for the night, but ultimately got rooms at a cafe where everything was frozen up, lavatories, water pipes, &c., and it was reputed to be colder than it had been for the past twenty years. However, we got through with the aid of our rugs and were hopeful of proceeding into Belgium the next day. Lille has not been bombarded much, if at all, by guns, but it has been repeatedly bombed from the air, and whole blocks of property of a very substantial kind have been reduced to ruins by this means. All the railway stations were smashed up, and when we were there what trains there were went and came to what we should call a goods yard. The Germans, during their occupation of this town, despoiled it of many things. All tramcars, motor cars, and vehicles were commandeered and taken away, also door plates, knockers, bell pulls, &c., had been stripped off and taken away. Lille was called the Manchester of France, but when we were there the only means of locomotion about the town was in British army motor luries. Prices of commodities were exorbitant, a cup of coffee was 7½d., and a meal which could be got in an English restaurant to-day at 1s. 6d. to 2s. was charged 10 francs, or 8s. in English money. Supplies of goods are an urgent necessity, and here again the opportunity for co-operation is great and pressing.

We found out next day that to proceed into Belgium was not an easy task. There was only one train per day, which was invariably full when it arrived at Lille, and it took seven hours at least to do the comparatively short journey. In view of the difficulties of travel and the enormously inflated cost of food, &c., the question as to the whole deputation going further forward was discussed. Mr. Maxwell, of the International Alliance, had suffered considerably by the journey to Lille and was not in a fit state to go further under the prevailing conditions, and after consideration it was decided that Mr. May, as secretary of the International Alliance, should go forward with Mons. Serwy, of the Belgian Wholesale Society, and view the position of affairs there and make a report on same for the whole movement. We then took train for Boulogne, and on our journey down passed through many places which were battered and damaged, and *via* Armentieres, Hazebrouck, and Calais, we ultimately arrived at the port of embarkation to England.

Our impressions of the visit will remain with us for ever. The serious and statesmanlike conduct of the Conference and the decisions arrived at will, we believe, mark a distinct advance forward in the development of co-operation, and we hope to see our country as the pioneer in co-operation playing a most prominent part in the work of establishing international co-operative trading relationships, which we feel can do so much towards engendering a closer knowledge and kindlier feeling between the peoples of the various countries.

THE MOVEMENT IN REGIONS SUFFERING FROM THE WAR.

We are most emphatically of the opinion that forthwith a strong appeal should be addressed by the International Alliance to the co-operators of every country asking for substantial donations to be given for the assistance of societies in these areas, and we doubt not but that the British movement will respond handsomely to the call. The committee already set up at the Conference could deal with the funds so raised, and we hope it will be put in hand at once. We hope resolutions on these matters will be submitted to Congress and give an opportunity for the movement to express itself on the various points raised.

RESOLUTIONS.

ASSISTANCE FOR DEVASTATED AREAS.

- (A) **That this Congress heartily supports the appeal issued by the Union to societies on behalf of the co-operative movement in the areas devastated by the war, and calls upon every British society to accord it the most generous assistance within their power.**

INFORMATION AND STATISTICAL BUREAU.

- (B) **That this Congress approves of the establishment of an International Co-operative Bureau of Statistical and Commercial Information.**

INTERNATIONAL TRADING.

- (c) **This Congress urges the necessity of setting up international trading relationships between the different countries, and to this end asks that a conference of Wholesale Societies and Productive Federations should be convened with a view to establishing close commercial relations between the co-operators of the world.**

52. THE TRADES UNION CONGRESS.

Report by Mr. W. Warren, the representative of the Co-operative Union attending the Trades Union Congress, held at Derby, September, 1918.

As representative of the Co-operative Union, I attended the Trades Union Congress, held in the Co-operative Hall, Derby, and was well received.

This was the Jubilee Congress, and was attended by 876 delegates, representing four-and-a-half millions of trade-unionists.

After the chairman (Mr. J. W. Ogden) had formally opened Congress, the mayor of Derby (Councillor E. Hulse), in a brief speech of welcome, contrived to blend compliments and the growing power and importance of trade-unionism, with a reminder that increased responsibility accompanies increased power. On the motion of the Right Hon. J. H. Thomas, M.P., the mayor was thanked for his attendance and address of welcome. The mayor then withdrew, and Mr. Ogden proceeded to deliver an inaugural address.

In the course of a broad and comprehensive review of the activities of trade-unionism and its relation to kindred bodies, he made pointed and friendly reference to our organisation, describing it as "that wonderful and magnificent organisation, the Co-operative Movement," and reminded the Congress that during the year an United Advisory Council of trade-unionists and co-operators had been set up, with a view to bringing the two movements into closer relationship and securing unity of effort in the interests of the workers.

The Congress was particularly strong in debating power. The subjects discussed some of them arising out of the war—revealed acute differences of opinion, which were expressed in direct and forceful terms. Yet, despite occasional outbursts of feeling, the delegates were kept in good humour by the tact, courtesy, and firmness of the chairman, who proved himself equal to every difficulty.

A resolution approving the attitude taken by the Co-operative Wholesale Society in a dispute with a section of its employees (which at the time was pending) was, after a lengthy discussion, carried, on a card vote, by a majority of over 1,000,000.

Messrs. Gompers and Bower brought fraternal greetings from the American Federation of Labour; Mr. Kennedy those of Canadian Labour; and the Right Hon. A. Henderson represented the Labour Party. At the close of the speeches, Mr. Ogden, in the name of the Congress, presented gold watches to Mr. Bower and Mr. Kennedy and silver plate to Mr. Gompers as mementoes of the occasion.

It was Friday before I got an opportunity of speaking. The chairman, after calling on me, intimated that Congress was behind its business time-table. I took the hint, and compressed my remarks according to his wishes, briefly pointing out that both movements had a small beginning: both have had similar obstacles and discouragements to overcome; that trade-unionism has now become a power in both industrial and political affairs; whilst co-operation is now a factor to be reckoned with in the commercial and industrial life of the nation. I tried to impress on Congress the urgent need for unity. Greater unity in the ranks of trade-unionists; unity among co-operators; then, with the spirit of unity and goodwill in each movement towards the other, we may, without waiting for a fusion of forces, go forward together—an irresistible force—to the achievement of our common ideal—the material improvement and social elevation of the workers.

The delegates signified their respect for our movement by a close attention to my remarks.

53. THE NATIONAL UNION OF TEACHERS.

The annual conference of the National Union of Teachers was held at Cheltenham during Easter week. Mr. R. R. Chappell (Western Section), who attended as the representative of the Co-operative Union, submits the following report:—

I attended the annual conference of the National Union of Teachers, held at Cheltenham during Easter week. The opening business meeting commenced on Easter Monday, and was held in the Town Hall, which on entering I found was crowded with delegates and visitors, numbering over 2,000, which, as I looked at the audience from the platform, reminded me of our own Co-operative Congress. Miss Conway (the president), promptly to the minute, opened the meeting in a very businesslike manner, and the way she conducted the meeting during her term of office that morning proved her most capable.

A civic reception followed immediately after the opening; representatives attended as follows: The Mayor, Bishop, Lord Lieutenant of the County, and many others representing various associations, &c.

Afterwards the new president was installed in his office, and after a few preliminaries he gave his address, which reviewed the work of the past year, in which he dealt with the scale of wages paid to teachers, the new Education Act, and the Whitley Councils. The address was very interesting, and appreciated by the delegates.

The result of the elections next followed and announcement of meeting place of next conference—Brighton.

The President then, on behalf of the Union, offered a cordial welcome to the delegates from other associations to meet them, and in his reference to these he said Mr. R. R. Chappell represented the Co-operative Union, which had always taken such an active interest in education, at which there was much applause.

After two or three delegates had spoken, I was called upon, and on taking my stand by the chairman was very heartily received by those present. I

expressed my pleasure at being present as a representative of the Co-operative Union. The Co-operative movement and the Educational movement were allied together for one great purpose—viz., the uplifting of the masses of the people. The Co-operative movement during the past four years had passed through strenuous times. At the commencement of the war we were able to control prices, but when stocks were gone we had to fight. The movement had determined to enter the political arena, and I expressed the hope that some day we may have a Co-operative representative with the power that Mr. Fisher has. We, as a movement, had advocated the raising of the school age, and welcomed the new Act, but thought that had it not been for the war it would not have passed so easily. We wanted to make the educational ladder from the elementary schools to higher education a reality, and not a “greasy pole,” and there must be maintenance grants to enable those who are poor but have the ability to attain that end. On other points I congratulated them, and hoped that we should have the pleasure of a teachers’ delegate at the Carlisle Congress. My remarks were well received.

I should have been present on Tuesday morning when Mr. Fisher was to have addressed the conference, but owing to urgent Cabinet meetings he was unable to attend; therefore, as most of the sessions were private, I did not attend. I consider it a great honour to have been present on this occasion to represent the Co-operative Union, and also from a personal and trade-unionist point of view.

54. THE WOMEN'S GUILDS.

(See Appendix V., page 301.)

In the appendix to this report will be found the usual summaries of the reports sent in by the Women’s Guild in England, Scotland, and Ireland. These reports give particulars of their work and progress.

Grants of £175 to the Scottish and £50 to the Irish Women’s Guilds were made by the Central Board at its meeting during Congress.

The question of the grant to the English Women’s Guild was considered by the Central Board at its meeting held in August, 1918, when it was reported that an interview had taken place with the Women’s Guild by members of the Executive Committee, and the question of the relations between the two organisations was frankly discussed. The outcome of that meeting was the renewal of confidence between the two bodies.

After a brief discussion on the report of the Executive Committee the following resolution was adopted:—

- (a) That we renew the grant to the Women’s Guild, same to be given on the work done by the guild during the year previous to their report being submitted to Congress. If at any time the grant is withheld the Central Board to give reasons for so doing.

- (b) That with the object of closer working between the Union and the Women's Guild, the United Board and the Guild Central Committee meet together at least once a year to discuss the possibility of co-operating in work in which both organisations are interested.

The grant of £100 for the year 1918-19 has been paid.

55. THE INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE ALLIANCE.

(See Appendix VI., page 316.)

The work of the International Co-operative Alliance has once more begun to assume aspects of renewed life. Before the Armistice was in sight the universal desire of the people of goodwill for a cessation of war and a return to the arbitrament of reason, had led to numerous proposals for an international co-operative meeting. Some desired the executive to make the great plunge and convene an International Congress in the city where, and at the same time as, the peace conference should be held. Others were content with the demand for a meeting of the Central Committee representative of all the countries in membership with the Alliance before the war.

To all those proposals the executive returned the one answer, that it was not, in their opinion, practicable to hold a representative international meeting of any kind until the peace should be signed. They were equally unanimous in the decision that their mandate did not empower them to convene any meeting to which any of the countries could not be invited to send delegates. Until December last they therefore confined themselves to the preliminary work of preparing a report on the work of the International Co-operative Alliance during the war, which should be in readiness for the meeting of the Central Committee whenever the time arrived for its reassembling.

They also began to institute inquiries into the co-operative position in the allied and neutral countries with the twofold object of establishing a basis or starting-off point, for the resumption of activities, and the provision of an appeal to International Co-operation to assist in the re-establishment of societies damaged or destroyed by the war.

By the end of the year, and in view of the Armistice, a proposal was laid before the executive that representations, on behalf of co-operation, should be made to the Peace Conference at Paris. The suggestion was supported by indications of the active sympathy in very influential quarters, with the idea that co-operative organisation should have a part in the economic basis of the League of Nations. But the difficulty of an international meeting to decide upon the representations which should be made was again evident. In these circumstances, the French Co-operative Union came forward with the proposal that they should take the responsibility of convening an Inter-Allied Co-operative Conference in Paris, at which the most pressing questions could be discussed. It was pointed out that

this would also be a step towards the resumption by the Alliance of its full functions at a later date. To this idea the executive gave its support on the understanding that the three questions to be discussed should be—

1. The economic relations between the nations, and the attitude of the co-operative movement towards the Peace Conference.
2. The best means of unifying co-operative effort to assist in re-establishing co-operation in the countries devastated by the war.
3. The international commercial relations to be established between the Central Co-operative Organisations of the Alliance.

The President of the International Co-operative Alliance, Mr. W. Maxwell, J.P., and the General Secretary, Mr. H. J. May, were appointed to attend in a consultative capacity.

The conference was held at Paris on 7th and 8th February, and was a marked success. Prof. Chas. Gide, the veteran French co-operator and economist, presided, and delegates were present from the various allied countries. Prof. Gide propounded his theory of international commercial relations on the basis of co-operation and mutual service. The spirit and form of the conference were admirable. A detailed account of the proceedings will be found in the report of the delegates of the British Co-operative Union. Its decisions are of far-reaching importance, comprising as they do, the proposal that the co-operative principle should form the economic basis of the League of Nations; that international commercial relations should be definitely established between the co-operative organisations; and the appointment of an Inter-Allied Co-operative Committee to arrange the re-establishment of co-operative societies destroyed by the war.

This committee is also charged with the duty of organising an International Bureau of Economic Statistics, which might eventually form the nucleus of an International Co-operative Wholesale Society.

Following the Paris Conference, a visit was paid to the devastated areas of France and Belgium with a view to providing first-hand information on the nature and extent of the damage done to co-operation in those countries.

Inquiries are also being made of the other countries involved in this devastation, such as Serbia, Italy, Roumania, Czecho-Slovakia, and Russia. A report of the whole matter will be issued as early as possible.

A second conference will be held at the end of May, to which representatives from allied and neutral countries will be invited, and it is hoped that by the end of the present year it may be possible to convene a meeting of the Central Committee of the Alliance to consider the lines of future work.

The question of international commercial relations has received some practical expression in the formation of a new Scandinavian Wholesale Society, comprising the Wholesale Co-operative Societies of Norway, Sweden, Denmark, and Finland, under the title of the "Nordisk Andelsforbund." This new organisation has its headquarters at Copenhagen, and is managed by a representative Joint Board

A gratifying feature of the past year's work has been the admission of no fewer than 39 British co-operative societies into membership with the Alliance.

The two outstanding points at the moment are, therefore, the assistance to be rendered to co-operative societies in the areas devastated by the war and the best means of resuming the functions of the Alliance.

The first is being dealt with by the Inter-Allied Co-operative Committee, on which the Co-operative Union is represented. The second is following the course indicated above. A start has been made within the Alliance itself in reopening communications with some of the allied and neutral countries from whom we have been shut off by the difficulties of travel during the war.

The Inter-Allied Conference at Paris has done something to prepare the way and the Inter-Allied and Neutral Conference, which is to be held at Paris on 30th and 31st May will, we are confident, do still more to carry us toward a complete renewal of activities.

It can truly be said of international co-operation that the fields are white unto harvest. The labour before us is great, but so are the opportunities and prospects of success. Now, if ever, the great army of co-operation should press forward with courage, confidence, and enterprise, not only to win the realisation of its ideals of voluntary association, but to achieve universal peace and the wellbeing of mankind.

H. J. MAY.

56. HODGSON PRATT MEMORIAL LIMITED.

The Hodgson Pratt Memorial has been formed to keep alive the memory of Hodgson Pratt, who for many years was one of the most active and self-sacrificing workers on behalf of the co-operative movement as well as many other forms of industrial and social reform.

It is managed by a committee consisting of representatives appointed by the Co-operative Union, the Co-operative Wholesale Society, the Labour Co-partnership Association, the Workmen's Club and Institute Union, and other bodies which assisted in promoting the memorial. Its president is Sir H. J. Vansittart Neale, K.C.B., and the honorary secretary, Mr. J. J. Dent, C.M.G., both of whom were for many years co-workers with Mr. Pratt. Its income in 1918 amounted to £196. 18s. 5d., of which £80. 12s. 6d. was contributed by co-operative societies, £35. 9s. 6d. by workmen's clubs, and £5. 18s. 6d. by individuals, the remainder consisting of interest and dividends upon the invested memorial fund, which at the end of the year amounted to £1,678.

This it is desired to speedily increase to £2,000 to enable the committee to establish an annual Hodgson Pratt scholarship at Ruskin College—which is re-opening as a residential college during the coming autumn—and to extend its support to the many forms of co-operative education and social and industrial reform for which Hodgson Pratt cared and laboured for so many years.

During the past year the Memorial Committee made a grant of £5 to the Central Education Committee of the Co-operative Union for a Hodgson Pratt scholarship at the Co-operative Summer School for a co-operative student who otherwise would be unable to attend the school. It made grants also towards the work of the Scottish Co-operative Women's Guild, the United Irishwomen, the Workers' Educational Association, the League of Nations Society, and other bodies, and has distributed a considerable amount of literature on co-operative and other subjects of social reform.

The Co-operative Union is an annual subscriber to the memorial, and all co-operative societies are earnestly requested to send contributions to enable the memorial to extend its useful work. These should be sent to the honorary secretary, Mr. J. J. Dent, C.M.G., 60, Knatchbull Road, London, S.E.5, who will gladly acknowledge same and give any further information desired.

57. GENERAL CO-OPERATIVE SURVEY.

(See Report issued in separate volume).

CONGRESS.

58. THE CONGRESS OF 1920.

Applications for the Congress of 1920 having been received from Bristol, Bath, and Torquay, Messrs. D. Williams (Swansea) and T. Horrocks (assistant secretary) were appointed by the United Board to visit the places, in order to ascertain the accommodation available, and the following is their report:—

(a)—BRISTOL.

Congress Hall.—The Colston Hall is available in which to hold the meetings of Congress, the evening meetings, and the P.S.A. on Sunday. It has a seating accommodation for 3,500 persons. There is a fine platform, a minor hall where about 600 persons can be lunched each day, and smaller rooms available for inquiry office, writing room, and cloak rooms. This hall is suitable in every way.

Exhibition.—There are two rooms available for an exhibition—(1) The Coliseum, 335ft. by 100ft., and (2) The Drill Hall, 260ft. by 90ft. Either of these rooms would be suitable.

Luncheon Rooms.—There will be no difficulty in providing the necessary rooms for luncheons, and the local society propose to cater.

Hotels and Private Lodgings.—The city is well provided with hotels, and there will be no difficulty in obtaining ample private lodgings.

(b)—BATH.

Congress Hall.—The only hall available is the Royal Theatre, which will accommodate from 1,250 to 1,300 persons. It would be necessary to obtain another hall for the evening meetings, and it is proposed to engage the Assembly Rooms, which are admirably adapted for such a purpose.

It would also be necessary to obtain an inquiry office outside the Congress Hall.

Exhibition.—There is no hall sufficiently large to accommodate an exhibition. It is suggested, however, by the Twerton-on-Avon Society that, if divided in two sections, an exhibition could be housed in the Drill Hall (110ft. by 60ft.) and the Riding School adjacent. It would be necessary, however, to board the floor of the latter building.

Luncheon Rooms.—There are plenty of rooms for luncheon purposes, and the local society propose to cater.

Hotels and Private Lodgings.—Bath being a noted Spa, there will be no difficulty as regards hotels and private lodgings.

Note.—Since the visit of our representatives, the Twerton Society has withdrawn its application, owing to its inability to hire a hall for the Congress sittings.

(c)—TORQUAY.

Congress Hall.—The Town Hall is available for the Congress and other meetings. It is a well-appointed building, and the main hall will seat at least 1,500 people. An inquiry office could be arranged for close by the Town Hall.

Exhibition.—The only building available for an exhibition is the Bath Saloon (80ft. by 60ft.), but this is altogether inadequate, therefore it would be necessary either to erect a special building, or have no exhibition.

Luncheon Rooms.—There are several good rooms near to the Town Hall available for luncheons, and the local society will cater.

Hotels and Private Lodgings.—Being a holiday resort, there are plenty of hotels and private lodgings. Accommodation for many of the delegates could be found with members of the society.

Representatives from each of the societies met the deputation, and accompanied them on their inspection.

OBITUARY.

59. DECEASED CO-OPERATORS.

The following is a list of co-operators who have died since last Congress, notice of whose death has appeared in the *Co-operative News*.

It will be observed that the list is again regrettably lengthened by the loss of members or sons of members from causes due to the war.

1918

	Page.		Page.
Archer, W., Sunderland	413	*Linfoot, F., Harrogate	532
Adams, G., Oxford	775	*Lobley, A., Dewsbury	545
*Alder, T. G., Gloucester	548	Lowery, M. H., Pegswood	545
*Ayre, H., Bishop Auckland	576	*Murray, J. A., C.W.S., Newcastle.	315
Athey, J., Newcastle	417	Morrell, J., Bradford	576
Parstow, J. J., Dewsbury	328	*McGowan, J. A., Manchester	697
Beckett, C. J., Darwen	309	Moulding, J., Manchester	773
*Blayclock, H., Birtley	299	Palphreyman, G., Ryde	537
Burgess, —, C.W.S., London	759	*Phillips, C., Leasingthorne	400
Butler, S., Long Eaton	335	Pingstone, H. C., Manchester...	809
*Bolland, R., Middlesbrough	362	*Pye, C., Lancaster	545
*Brooks, J., Hathern	405	*Quinn, F., Gateshead	576
Bayley, J., Southport	520	*Rankine, R., Prestwich	697
*Baines, J., Carnforth	576	*Ross, —, Newcastle	340
*Barker, G., Market Weighton....	721	*Scott, T. L., Haltwhistle	299
*Blake, F., Jarrow	744	*Scott, E., West Calder	603
*Bramley, A., Hathern	315	*Scott, R., Birtley	315
*Buck, T., Seghill ..	807	*Seig, T., C.W.S., Cardiff	587
Cornforth, A., Consett	520	*Senior, F., Sheffield	759
Chapman, G., Newton	544	*Shepperd, E. E., Bristol	461
†Crompton, F., Manchester	697	Stanton, G., Wig-ton	477
*Dawson, R., Newcastle	622	*Steele, J. D., Uddingston	603
*Drew, W. J., Frampton Cotterill.	676	Tustain, W., Banbury	473
*Eastment, C., C.W.S., Cardiff....	665	*Tuckerman, T. R., South Moor ..	405
*Emery, H., Murton Colliery	697	*Thorpe, —, Dewsbury	665
Fotheringham, Rev. D., Edmonton	£60	Turner W., Lincoln ..	727
*Gotheridge, G., Blackpool	520	Tennant, W., C.W.S., London ...	759
Gill, W., Newcastle	403	Walker, W., Willington....	403
Green, J., Netherfield	605	*Wallington, W. H., London....	473
Hall, J., Bishop Auckland	545	Webster, J. G., Woolwich	721
Hirst, H., Morecambe	605	Wetherall, W., Bishop Auckland.	651
*Heatley, G., Middlesbrough	362	Wharton, R., Skipton ..	532
*Hutchinson, J. J., C.W.S., New-		*Wilworth, L., C.W.S., Pelaw	423
castle	315	Wilmot, W. L., Sunderland.....	423
Idle, A. O., London	353	*Whitworth, E., Manchester.....	651
*Iredale, H. R., Gateshead	807	Whittle, W., Preston	770
*Jackson, G. W., Blyth	697	*Wilde, T., Carlisle ..	790
*Lewis, A. T., C.W.S., Cardiff	665	Whetstone, S., Addlestone	—
*Lamb, J., Bowdon Close	315	*Youll, W. B., Wallsend ...	340
Lawton, D., Greenfield	315		

* Killed in action or died of wounds. † Drowned at sea.

1919.

	Page.		Page.
Anderson, W. C., Sheffield	159	Pearson, J., Manchester	158
Dewhurst, J., Failsworth	158	Percival, Dr., Hereford	13
Field, J., Walker	159	Rawlinson, T., Blackpool	32
*Gregory, H., Leigh	196	Richardson, A. G., Radcliffe	72
Hogg, E., Blyth	131	Scotter, Mrs., Hull	74
Holt, E., Rochdale	158	*Topping, E., Leigh	248
Hollingworth, J., Failsworth	159	Tyler, H. W., Walthamstow	139
Jarman, J., Warrington	139	Upham, W. J., Failsworth	196
*Lockyear, —, Woolwich	187	Wiley, Mrs., Sheerness	53
Lock, T., Torrington	227	Worthington, T., Failsworth	158
Newbould, Mrs. H., Hunslet	214		

* Killed in action or died of wounds.

The following have appeared in the *Scottish Co-operator* :—

1918.

	Page.		Page.
Mr. Robert Fraser, Glasgow Eastern	208	Mrs. J. M. Lamont, St. Cuthbert's.	356
Mr. Daniel R. Mitchell, St. George.	215	Mr. John Hyslop, Catrine	372
Mr. W. H. Crossthwaite, S.C.W.S..	223	Mr. Alexander Mitchell, Lochgelly.	373
Mr. T. Gilmour, Kilmarnock	235	Mr. James Brown, Lanark	372
Mr. Richard Maule Dunfermline..	236	Mr. John Nisbet, Stonehousemuir.	399
Major J. E. Stewart, M.C., Coat- bridge	244	Dr. H. Dyer, <i>Scottish Co-operator</i> .	415
Mr. R. Donaldson, Leith	299	Mr. P. G. Stewart, Glasgow	450
Mr. James Lochhead, Edinburgh .	314	Mr. James Mills, St. George	474
Lord Rhondda	322	Mr. Ninian Anderson, S.C.W.S. ..	485
Mr. Thos. Carmichael, Tillicoultry.	324	Mr. R. Howat, New Cumnock	486
Mr. William Dalgetty, Brechin ...	335	Mrs. Gillespie, Slamannan	498
Mrs. Murray, Wishaw	340	Mrs. Fraser, Stirling	520
		Mr. James Inglis, St. George	521

1919.

	Page.		Page.
Miss M. B. Couper, D. and F.	75	Miss Gilchrist, Lochgelly	104
Mrs. Wyper, Kinning Park	81	Mr. A. R. Glen, Pollokshaws	104
Mr. W. C. Anderson	91	Mr. Geo. Maltman, Renfrew Equit.	104
Mr. John Anderson, Tollcross	95	Mr. King, Bo'ness	105
Mrs. John Anderson, Tollcross	95	Mr. Wm. Christison, Walkerburn .	122
Mr. Geo. Watson, S.C.W.S.	95	Mr. Donald M'Corvie, Campbeltown.	122
Miss Boyle, S.C.W.S.	95	Lieut. T. O'Hara, Galashiels	122
Mrs. J. A. Glen, Pollokshaws	95	Mr. Geo. Bisset, Aberdeen	143
Mr. W. Thomson, Kinning Park ..	95		

RESOLUTIONS SENT IN BY SOCIETIES.

By the Manchester and Salford Equitable Co-operative Society.

(1) PROGRAMME OF CO-OPERATIVE POLITICAL POLICY.

That the following proposals be included in the Parliamentary Programme of co-operative political policy, and shall be embodied in the election address of every approved co-operative candidate for Parliament.

That the profiteering of private speculators and the trading community generally be eliminated by legislation or administrative action, by limiting interest on all capital employed in the processes of production, distribution, and exchange to 5 per cent per annum.

The nationalisation of land, mines, shipping, railways, canals, and water supply.

The abolition of slums, and the erection of a sufficient number of semi-detached cottages, each having ample land attached to enable the occupiers to grow their own vegetables.

The establishment of a State bank, also of municipal banks to protect the community against the huge financial monopoly being built up by the universal amalgamation of Joint Stock Banks for profit-making purposes, so that works of reconstruction, and other matters for the well-being of the people, may be carried out at a minimum of expense for financial service by the use of public assets and credit.

The establishment of a working day not exceeding eight hours for all workers.

By the Ten Acres and Strehley Co-operative Society.

(2) CONSTITUTION OF THE NATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE REPRESENTATION COMMITTEE.

That the constitution of the National Co-operative Representation Committee should be so altered as to admit of a co-operative candidate running as a Co-operative and Labour or Socialist candidate.

From Bristol, Coleford, Frampton Cotterell, and Twerton Co-operative Societies.

(3) JOINT ACTION WITH OTHER BODIES.

That this Congress, in view of the unsuccessful attempts made for securing direct representation for the movement in Parliament and on local governing bodies, is of the opinion that cohesion of forces and joint action with other progressive bodies is absolutely necessary in order that the whole voting power thereof may co-operate and be fully utilised in the future

running of candidates. This Congress considers the time has arrived for affiliation with the National Labour Party and the linking up of local societies with the Labour Representation Committees in their respective districts. It, therefore, instructs the Central Board of the Co-operative Union Limited to take such steps as may be necessary to put into operation the terms of the above resolution.

By the Barry and District Co-operative Society.

(4) CONSOLIDATED RESERVE FUND.

That this Congress, recognising the increasing necessity for co-ordinating the financial reserves of the movement in such a manner that each individual society may be freed from the risk of compulsory liquidation, and members of societies be thereby encouraged to invest with absolute confidence their savings in their respective societies, hereby instructs the Central Board of the Co-operative Union to invite each society-member of the Union to contribute to a Consolidated Reserve Fund at the subjoined rate, or at such other rate which the Congress may direct, this fund—

- (1) To be under the Control of the Central Board;
- (2) To be invested in such a manner as to be easily realisable;
- (3) To be limited in extent at the discretion of the Central Board; and
- (4) To be appropriative to the following purposes:—

- (a) To rescue by means of a free grant any contributing society from insolvency;
- (b) To aid by means of a loan any contributing society which, because of a "run" on share capital, or any other cause which may be considered reasonable to the Central Board, may be seriously in need of such assistance;
- (c) To any other purpose which the Congress may from time to time direct, or which the Central Board may deem desirable.

RATE OF CONTRIBUTIONS.

Societies with an annual trade up to £100,000	$\frac{1}{4}$ d.	per £ of Sales per year.
" " " " £100,000 to £250,000.	$\frac{1}{4}$ d.	" " "
" " " " £250,000 to £500,000.	$\frac{1}{8}$ d.	" " "
" " " " Above £500,000.	$\frac{1}{16}$ d.	" " "

By the St. Cuthbert's (Edinburgh), Brightside and Carbrook, Bristol, Fails-worth, Great Grimsby, Middlesbrough, and other Co-operative Societies.

(5) LAND NATIONALISATION.

That this Congress considers that the present system of private property in land ought to be abolished inasmuch as it hampers production, taxes industry for the benefit of non-workers, makes land difficult of access and insecure of tenure. It also causes overcrowding, checks public improve-

ment, and gives to irresponsible private individuals injurious power over the lives and liberties of others. This Congress therefore demands that the land be made national property under the administration of representative local authorities so that it may be put to the best use in the interests of the whole community.

By the Cambridge Co-operative Society.

(6) NATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE EMPLOYEES' PEACE PENSION FUND.

That this Congress endorses the principle of the establishment by the movement of a National Co-operative Employees' Peace Pension Fund as a memorial to those Employees who have fallen in the war, and as a means of commemorating the declaration of Peace.

By Blackburn Industrial Co-operative Society.

(7) CO-OPERATIVE EMPLOYEES REMAINING AT WORK DURING A STRIKE.

In the opinion of this Congress the time has arrived when definite conditions as to co-operative employees being permitted to remain at work during any strike in which any group or groups of employees are called upon to cease work in sympathy with others, should be agreed upon between organised labour and co-operative societies; and it calls upon the Co-operative Union to approach the Trade Union Congress, through the Joint Committee, or otherwise, with a view to such conditions being formulated and put into practice as early as possible.

By the Leek and Moorlands Co-operative Society.

(8) DISTRICT CONCILIATION BOARDS.

That the Constitution of the District Conciliation Boards be amended so as to preclude persons sitting as members of the Conciliation Board who have previously been negotiating with the cases when before the societies or Hours and Wages Board. Also that provision be made for an independent chairman to be brought in to preside over the Board with power to vote.

By the Walsall and District Co-operative Society.

(9) CO-OPERATIVE COLLEGE.

That this Congress is of opinion that a Co-operative College is essential to the welfare and development of the Co-operative Movement, and that no worthier memorial of the Peace and of those co-operators who have

served and fallen in the war could be established than an institution for the dissemination of the principles of co-operation and harmony in industrial and international relationship.

It therefore instructs the Central Board to organise a fund forthwith for the establishment of such a college to which co-operators and co-operative organisations may be invited to subscribe.

By the Grimshaw Park Co-operative Society.

(10) PURCHASING POWER, EDUCATION, AND RELIGIOUS TEACHING.

That this Congress, in order that the purchasing power of all co-operators shall be equalised, demands that no efficient school shall be excluded from the fullest educational advantages on the ground that, in addition to teaching other subjects, it also undertakes to give definite religious teaching.

By the Burton-on-Trent Co-operative Society.

(11) NATIONAL DEBT.

That in the opinion of this Congress, the enormous National Debt necessitating huge annual payments of interest and sinking fund constitutes a serious hindrance to Industrial and Social Reconstruction and a menace to the prosperity of these Islands, and is a burden which should not be thrown upon future generations; the Congress therefore demands that the Government at once reduce this debt by the imposition of a levy on capital, such levy to apply to individual properties, less than £1,000 to be exempt, and a graduated scale to be imposed above that sum.

By the Batley, Castleford, Cleckheaton, Dewsbury, and Hillhouse Co-operative Societies.

(12) SEPARATE SECTION FOR THE YORKSHIRE SOCIETIES.

That the six Yorkshire districts of the Co-operative Union be constituted a separate section of the Union, to be named the Yorkshire Section.

PROPOSED ALTERATION
OF THE
RULES
OF THE
CO-OPERATIVE UNION LIMITED.

Proposed by the Central Board.

Rule 10, Clause 2, delete "1912" and substitute "1920." Line 5, delete "1 $\frac{1}{4}$ d." and substitute "2d."

The present rule reads as follows:—

(2) On and after 1st January, 1912, every society shall, so long as it continues a member of the Union, make an annual contribution to the funds of the Union, and such contribution shall be in the case of distributive retail societies at the rate of 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. in respect to each member of each such society, and shall be calculated according to the number of members returned by each society on its last annual return to the Registrar. The United Board shall decide the rate or rates of contribution payable upon membership by the various classes of co-operative societies other than distributive societies, whether the same be federated, productive, agricultural, or any other form whatsoever, or whether the same be a central organisation composed of other societies or not.

The following amendments are proposed by the Batley, Castleford, Cleckheaton, Dewsbury, and Hillhouse Co-operative Societies, viz.:—

Rule 24 (3). That Section 3 of Rule 24 be deleted, and the following substituted—

“The North-Western Section, as constituted in April, 1919, shall be divided into two parts, one part to comprise the area covered by the six Yorkshire District Associations, to be named the Yorkshire Section, to have eight members on the Central Board; the other part to comprise the area covered by the following District Associations, namely, Bolton, Cheshire and North Wales, Macclesfield, Crewe and District, Manchester, North-East Lancashire, North Lancashire, North Lonsdale, Oldham, Rochdale, and Rossendale, to be named the North-Western Section, to have twelve members on the Central Board.”

Rule 32 (1). Lines three, four, and five to be deleted, and the following substituted—

“The North-Western Section shall appoint three; the Midland, Northern, Scottish, Southern, and Yorkshire two each; and the Western and South-Western one each.”

Rule 60 (1). Delete Rule 60, section 1, and substitute the following—

“1. The North-Western Section shall be divided into ten electoral districts, comprising the following ten Conference Associations:—Bolton, Cheshire and North Wales, Macclesfield, Crewe and District, Manchester, North-East Lancashire, North Lancashire, North Lonsdale, Oldham, Rochdale, and Rossendale. The Yorkshire Section shall be divided into eight electoral districts, comprising the following eight Conference Associations:—Airedale No. 1, Airedale No. 2, Calderdale, Dewsbury, Huddersfield, East Yorkshire, South Yorkshire No. 1, and South Yorkshire No. 2.”



APPENDIX.

	PAGE.
I.—FARMING BY SOCIETIES	256
II.—NEW SOCIETIES REGISTERED IN 1918	260
III.—SOCIETIES DISSOLVED OR AMALGAMATED IN 1918.	283
IV.—CENTRAL EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE.....	288
V.—WOMEN'S GUILDS' REPORTS.....	301
VI.—THE INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE ALLIANCE ..	316

I. FARMING.

(See Report 6, page 134).

N.B.—Societies holding less than ten acres are not included.

(a) *By Societies.*

Society.	County.	Acreage.		Capital.	Interest.	Rent.	Result of Year.	
		Owned by Society.	Rented.				Surplus	De- ficiency
				£	£	£	£	£
IRISH SECTION — Belfast	Antrim	178	..	10992	201	..	..	†1591
MIDLAND SECTION —								
Burton on Trent .	Stafford ..	270	..	12300	113	..	..	..
Cannock	Stafford....	403	..	20000	†	..	..	..
Coalville	Leicester ..	10	15	..	..	..	..	..
Coventry	Warwick ..	..	340	..	..	200	..	746
Daventry.....	Northamptn	130	13	4388	..	..	..	..
Derby ..	Derby	52½	..	5129	205	..	..	..
Desborough Indus	Northamptn	3000	..	5000	200	3000	1054	..
Earls Barton	Northamptn	43	..	2380	90	..	54	..
Enderby	Leicester ..	4	605	6935	250	889	2334	..
Gainsborough....	Lincoln ..	697	500	26000	1300	550	2128	..
Great Wigston	Leicester ..	97	60	2123	117	166	217	..
Hucknall Torkard	Nottingham	..	534½	7209	202	728	1333	..
Hinckley	Leicester ..	264	..	14494	735	..	..	..
Ilkeston	Derby .....	..	17	..	..	55	..	115
Kirkby-in-Ashfld.	Nottingham	..	251	3760	188	240	..	460
Leicester	Leicester ..	..	205	2000	100	256	198	..
Long Buckby	Northamptn	267	3	12349	600	6	943	..
Long Eaton	Derby	235	243	17800	733	484	1008	..
Langley Mill and Aldercar	Derby ...	245	84	12381	495	115	72	..
Lincoln	Lincoln ..	£50	147	40733	1630	165	1707	..
Mansfield and Sutton	Nottingham	..	104	3779	151	180	..	..
Market Harboro'.	Leicester ..	90	100	2660	121	235	211	..
Morning Star Sun.	Leicester ..	434	3	..	..	..	1521	..
Nottingham	Nottingham	333	95	25673	736	120	1853	..
Peterborough	Northamptn	594	..	30828	516	..	14	..
Raunds Distrib...	Northamptn	420	145	23000	613	180	293	..
Rugby	Warwick ..	269	..	1142	..	..	..	..
Rushden	Northamptn	159	..	6187	249	..	26	..
Saxby ..	Lincoln ..	..	..	258	12	17	97	..
Selston	Nottingham	18	..	776	..	..	..	..
Tamworth	Stafford ..	660	190	36852	972	209	1130	..
Ten Acres and Stirchley	Worcester..	25	..	3552	153	..	..	761
Wo'laston.	Northamptn	14	..	..	..	..	..	..

† Joint ownership with Walsall, March, 1919.

‡ Suspense Balance.

FARMING.

257

Society.	County.	Acreage.		Capital.	Interest.	Rent.	Result of Year.	
		Owned by Society	Rented.				Surplus	De- ficiency
				£	£	£	£	£
NORTHERN SECTION—								
Ashington Equit.	Northumbld	..	64	..	..	73	273	..
Birtley	Durham ..	..	492	7200	291	693	2266	..
Bishop Auckland	Durham ..	..	270	1254	62	410	316	..
Brandon and								
Byshottles	Durham ..	3	10½	..	..	30	275	..
Cambois	Northumbld	..	10	..	..	18	25	..
Cornforth and								
Coxhoe	Durham ..	33	..	1769	88	..	..	3
Chester-le-Street .	Durham ..	..	212	1119	46	320	449	..
Consett	Durham ..	200	..	2595	87	..	61	..
Darlington	Durham ..	..	79	230	11	237	76	..
Derwent Flr. Mill	Durham ..	..	144	2616	..	220	119	..
East Cleveland ..	York	84	79	7305	249	120	18	..
Hartlepools	Durham ..	227	17	18661	604	80	499	..
Haswell	Durham ..	..	55	500	25	77	118	..
New Brancepeth ..	Durham ..	..	16	..	..	18	..	9
Ryhope&Silksw'th	Durham ..	..	40½	360	18	112	50	..
Seaton Delaval ..	Northumbld	..	242	4000	200	375	742	..
Skelton	York .....	..	204	3639	134	360	361	..
West Wylam and								
Prudhoe	Northumbld	97	19	2800	140	116	385	..
NORTH-WESTERN SECTION—								
Ashton-u-Lyne ..	Lancaster ..	..	432	8950	..	729	..	63
Barnsley British..	York .....	..	139	..	..	152	*	*
Birkenshaw	York .....	..	21	210	10	48	1	..
Blackpool	Lancaster..	17½	..	4470	223	..	..	208
Bolton	Lancaster..	56	..	5856	195	..	295	..
Bradford (City of)	York	18	75	1800	74	97	*	*
Brightside and								
Carbrook	York	180	27	9619	579	74	139	..
Brighouse	York .....	..	40	..	..	80	79	..
Burnley	Lancaster..	77	5	9000	375	100	..	490
C.W.S. ....	.....	8283	..	325609	10381	..	..	6920
Chesterfield	Derby .....	..	64	..	..	144	*	*
Dalton-in-Furness	Lancaster..	9½	15	..	..	45	168	..
Failsworth	Lancaster..	24½	0½	3929	77	..	..	1283
Farnworth and								
Kearsley	Lancaster..	16	35	2500	..	56	..	..
Honley	York	17½	7½	1574	66	22	5	..
Huddersfield	York	136	..	5800	..	..	..	358
Hull	York	479	20	28000	1120	100	..	1220
Hyde	Chester....	..	15½	..	..	40	..	5
Kirkby-in-Furness	Lancaster..	40	..	3095	..	121	..	..
Leeds	York	81	..	6339	203	..	..	3
Longridge	Lancaster..	..	13	..	..	32	..	..
Masbro'	York	14½	4½	2768	115	20	..	8
Millom	Cumberland	33	137	1258	..	197	751	..

* No separate account kept.

Society.	County.	Acreage.		Capital.	Interest.	Rent.	Result of Year	
		Owned by Society	Rented.				Surplus	De- ficiency
				£	£	£	£	£
NORTH-WESTERN SECTION— <i>con.</i>								
Milnsbridge.....	York	23½	..	3450	..	..	..	60
Mirfield	York .....	..	14½	..	..	41	..	*
Nelson	Lancaster..	169	45	15394	539	100	†	†
Netherthong ...	York	11	10	963	46	30	87	..
Pendleton	Lancaster..	..	44	276	14	86	..	15
Pilsley	Derby .....	..	24	..	..	41	..	..
Preston	Lancaster..	13½	..	..	..	..	..	..
Shelley	York	10	..	1047	..	..	14	..
Silsden	York	47	66	..	..	..	338	..
Skipton	York	203	180	10900	290	330	..	250
South Crosland and Netherton.	York .....	..	50	1457	72	90	..	228
Stockport Indus..	Chester ....	..	30	..	..	45	..	115
Scunthorpe	Lincoln....	91	5	..	..	..	..	..
Swarthmoor and Ulverston	Lancaster ..	1	12	150	6	33	..	..
Tyldesley.....	Lancaster ..	86	..	2000	100	150	..	..
Whitworth	Lancaster..	20	..	600	..	..	..	..
Winnington and Northwich	Chester ....	..	11	..	..	25	14	..
Wooddale	York	16	7½	1360	68	15	..	37
York.....	York .....	..	64	100	5	142	*	*
SCOTTISH SECTION—								
Bannockburn	Stirling....	30	..	1219	60	..	200	..
Dunfermline	Fife .....	..	504	13137	425	1123	3420	..
Gorebridge	Midlothian.	269½	..	5750	..	..	..	..
Greenock (Gen.)..	Renfrew...	175	..	10000	337	300	..	332
Pathhead and Sinclairtown ..	Fife	94	6	12500	700	300	200	..
Scottish C.W.S.Ld.	.....	1112	..	34396	478	..	4570	..
St. Cuthbert's, Edinburgh	Midlothian.	3643	..	38545	2000	1525	3755	..
Tranent	Haddington	356	120	18346	1430	120	2558	..
Walkerburn.....	Peebles....	..	138	..	..	248	22	..
SOUTHERN SECTION—								
Ashford	Kent	126	..	5448	200	..	..	..
Banbury	Oxford	81	..	4799	156	..	173	..
Chipping Norton.	Oxford	160	40	6300	315	35	484	..
Goldalming	Surrey ....	..	230	4861	195	170	119	..
Haverhill.....	Suffolk	470	56	..	..	65	..	..
Ipswich	Suffolk	341	25	18032	857	34	1214	..
Portsea Island ...	Hants	325	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sawston	Cambridge.	2	55	500	25	72	..	..
Sittingbourne ...	Kent	385	..	6167	550	169	..	14
Trowbridge	Wilts. ....	..	45	1500	..	132	..	50

* No separate account kept. † Valuation not yet taken.

FARMING.

259

Society.	County.	Acreage.		Capital.	Interest.	Rent.	Result of Year	
		Owned by Society.	Rented.				Surplus	De- ficiency
				£	£	£	£	£
SOUTH-WESTERN SECTION—								
Buckfastleigh	Devon	4½	70½	1645	82	139	..	..
Plymouth	Devon	2555	80	65000	3250	225	..	3089
Radstock	Somerset ..	..	200	1500	75	300	..	..
Torquay	Devon ....	..	150	4800	240	750	878	..
Wellington	Somerset ..	661	..	5646	282	..	..	30
WESTERN SECTION—								
Abersychan and Talywain	Monmouth.	..	49	..	..	73	58	..
Cwmbach	Glamorgan.	..	126	350	17	..	..	53
Frampton Cott'r'll	Gloucester .	26	..	..	..	..	..	..
Gorslas..	Kent.....	21	..	..	..	..	..	..
Senghenydd and Aber Valley....	Glamorgan.	..	68	..	..	45	..	..
Total.....	.....	31215½	9185	1113643	38919	20064	41768	18516

(b) Farming Societies.

SOUTHERN SECTION	—			£	£	£	£	£
Assington	Suffolk ....	..	233	1784	58	140	359	..
WESTERN SECTION	—							
Coln St. Aldwyns	Gloucester	..	574	3000	1	403	950	..
Total.....	.....	..	807	4784	59	543	1309	

II.—LIST OF INDUSTRIAL AND PROVIDENT SOCIETIES REGISTERED DURING THE YEAR 1918.

(See Report 10, page 137.)

I.—ENGLAND AND WALES.

ABBREVIATIONS.—C means Co-operative; E, Equitable; I, Industrial; L, Land; and P, Provident. "Limited" is understood after every name, and "Society" where A (Association) is not added.

County.	No.	Name of Society.	Registered Office.
Cornwall	6400	Porthallow Fishermen's C.	Post Office, St. Keverne, Cornwall.
Dorset	6401	Co-operative Stores, Sturminster Newton.	Milk Depôt, Sturminster Newton, Dorset.
London	6402	Belgian Basket Works and Home Industries.	6, Burlington-gardens, W.1.
Surrey	6403	Addiscombe and Woodside Allotments.	Golf Links, Shirley-rd., (opposite Elm Grove-rd.), Addiscombe, Croydon.
Surrey	6404	South Norwood Allotment Holders' A.	88, Portland-road, South Norwood, S.E.25.
Cornwall	6405	Camelford and District Agricultural C.	Co-operative Cheese School, Camelford, Cornwall.
Middlesex	6406	Eonnds Green C. Allotment	9, Maidstone-road, New Southgate, N.11.
Glamorgan....	6407	Barry (West End) Allotment Holders	8, Victoria-rd., Barry, Glamorgan.
Warwick	6408	Atherstone and District Allotment A.	28, Stafford-street, Atherstone.
Somerset	6409	Alcombe and District Smallholders and Allotments.	Victoria Room, Alcombe, Taunton.
Cornwall	6410	Gwinear and District Agricultural C.	Cheddar Cottage, Cheese School, Gwinear Hayle, Cornwall.
Lancs.	6411	Irlam, Cadishead and District Allotments and Smallholdings A.	27, Liverpool-road, Cadishead, Manchester.
Yorks.	6412	New Skelton Allotment Holders A.	23, High-st., Skelton-in-Cleveland, Yorks.
Essex	6413	Saffron Walden and District Allotments and Gardens A.	2, Bridge-street, Saffron Walden.
Lancs.	6414	Swinton, Pendlebury and District Allotments A.	23, Dudley-road, Pendlebury, Manchester.

County.	No.	Name of Society.	Registered Office.
ENGLAND AND WALES— <i>con.</i>			
Glamorgan ...	6415	Penyfai and District Allotment A.	The Parsonage, Penyfai, Bridgend.
Hereford	6416	Wellington and District (Hereford) C. Dairy.	Paradise House, Marden, Hereford.
Stafford	6417	Tamworth and District Farmers' C.	32, Victoria-rd., Tamworth, Stafford.
Monmouth ...	6418	Abertysswg Allotment	10, The Green, Abertysswg, Cardiff.
Lancs.	6419	Ashton-in-Makerfield Gardeners and Allotments A.	105, Heath-road, Ashton-in-Makerfield, Newton-le-Willows.
Gloucester	6420	Barry Fur and Feather Trading..	3, Glass-terrace, Cad-oxton, Barry, Glam.
Glamorgan....	6421	Blaengarw Allotment.....	Workmen's Institute, Blaengarw, Bridgend.
Glamorgan....	6422	Abertridwr Allotment Holders' A.	Sunny Bank, Thomas-st., Abertridwr, Cardiff.
Durham	6423	Byers Green Allotments	7, Wilkinson-street, Byers Green, Spennymoor.
Derby	6424	Rowditch Garden	58, Milton-st., Derby.
Glamorgan ...	6425	Swansea and District Farmers' A.	41, Wind-street, Swansea.
Chester	6426	Wilmslow and District Allotments A.	Rotherwood, Moorlane, Wilmslow, Manchester.
Yorks	6427	Newton Garden and Allotment ..	3, Crossland-place, Newton Hill, Outwood, Wakefield.
Northumbrlnd.	6428	County Borough of Tynemouth Allotments.	38, Queen Alexandra-rd., North Shields.
Glamorgan ...	6429	Maesycloed Allotment A.....	Melrose, Graig-street, Pontypridd.
Derby	6430	Heanor and District Allotment Holders and Gardeners' A.	106, Ray-st., Heanor, Derby.
Surrey	6431	East Croydon and Addiscombe Plotholders' A.	16, Edward-road, Croydon.
Brecon	6432	Gwys and District Allotment and Gardening.	Clifton Hill, Lower Cwmtwrch, Glam.
Lincoln	6433	Great Grimsby Amalgamated Society Engineers' Club and Institute.	262, King Edward-street, Grimsby.
Hants.	6434	Basingstoke and District Allotments and Smallholders' A.	6, Cross-street, Basingstoke.
Monmouth ...	6435	Crumlin and District Allotment Holders and Gardeners' A.	1, New Houses, Whitethorne-st., Crumlin, Newport, Mon.
Nottingham ..	6436	East Bridgford Gardens Allotments and Smallholdings' A...	Red Barn, East Bridgford, Notts.

County.	No.	Name of Society.	Registered Office.
ENGLAND AND WALES— <i>con.</i>			
Monmouth ...	6437	Ebbw Vale and District C. Poultry Food.	19, Clovelly - avenue, Ebbw Vale, Mon.
London	6438	St. Pancras Labour Bakery Ltd.	44, Ferdinand-street, N.W.1.
Stafford	6439	Graiseley and District C. Allotment.	93, Rayleigh - road, Wolverhampton.
Warwick ...	6440	Amalgamated Society of Tool-makers, Coventry District Club and Institute.	Rydal House, Warwick-row, Coventry
Kent	6441	Boxley Food Production	Sandling, Maidstone.
Stafford	6442	Coseley Allotment and Small-holders' C.	2, Clifton-st., Hurst Hill, Bilston.
Anglesey	6443	Menai C. Farm Implement.....	Hologwyn, Gaerwen, Anglesey.
Glamorgan ...	6444	Llangonoyd Allotment	32, Station-road, Llangonoyd, Bridgend.
Glamorgan ...	6445	Crynant Allotment and Gardeners	2, Glasfryn - terrace, Crynant, Neath.
Kent	6446	Sevenoaks Farmers' Union Auction Mart.	Foxbury Farm, Stone-street, Sevenoaks.
Glamorgan....	6447	Cwmbwrla Allotment.....	Cwmbwrla Tinplate Works, Swansea.
Lancs.....	6448	Eccles and District Allotment Holders' A.	30. Crawford - street, Monton, Eccles.
Monmouth....	6449	Pontywain and District Allotment.	37, North-rd., Ponty-wain, Cross Keys, Newport, Mon.
Glamorgan ...	6450	St. Bride's Minor Parish and District Allotment and Gardeners' A.	18, Wigan-ter., Bryn-cethin, Bridgend.
Glamorgan ...	6451	Llanishen (Glam.) Allotment ...	Hardy Plant Nursery, Llanishen, Cardiff.
Glamorgan ...	6452	Heolycue Allotment and Gardeners.	Broad-st., Heolycyw, Bridgend.
Nottingham ..	6453	Bulwell Small Holders' Allotment A.	91, Henrietta-st., Bulwell, Nottingham.
Devon	6454	Torquay Allotment Holders' C. A.	45, Lymington-road, Torquay.
Gloucester....	6455	Hambrook and District Small-holdings and Allotments A.	Hambrook, Bristol.
Durham	6456	Darlington and District Small-holdings and Allotments A.	27, Milton-st., East-bourne, Darlington.
Sussex	6457	Compton District C.	Estate Office, Compton Petersfield.
Yorks.....	6458	Castleford and District Allotments Federation.	Creg Ville, Lower Cambridge - street, Castleford.
Devon.....	6459	Broadclyst Cottage Garden C. ...	1. Railway - cottages, Broadclyst, Exeter.
Devon	6460	Teignmouth Co-operative Allotment Holders' A.	"Hazelhead," Teignmouth.

County.	No.	Name of Society.	Registered Office.
ENGLAND AND WALES— <i>con.</i>			
Lancs.....	6461	Moss Side and District Allotments Society.	205, Moss-lane East, Moss Side, Manchester.
Yorks.	6462	Treeton and District Home Food Production.	84, Wood-lane, Treeton, Rotherham.
London	6463	British Food Culture A.	112, High Holborn, W.C.1.
Carnarvon	6464	Portmadoc and District C.....	25, East - avenue, Portmadoc.
Glamorgan....	6465	Cwmgwrach Allotment.....	Old Miners' Arms, Cwmgwrach, Neath.
London	6466	Pioneer Trust	27, Chancery - lane, W.C.2.
Carnarvon	6467	Eifionydd Co-operative Cheese Factory.	Eifionydd Co-operative Cheese Factory Limited, Chwillog, Carnarvon.
Chester	6468	Barthomley Farmers' Dairies	Park Farm, Crewe.
Denbigh	6469	Wynnstay Farmers' A.....	Llangedwyn, Osw'try.
Warwick	6470	Shirley Heath Freehold Holdings A.	114, Barrows - road, Sparkbrook, Birmingham.
Derby	6471	Carsington and Hopton Co-operative Agricultural Implement.	Hopton Estate Office, Wirksworth, Derby.
Pembroke	6472	St. Lawrence Co-operative Threshing.	Stone Hall Farm, Wolf's Castle, Pembrokeshire.
Hants.....	6473	Alton and District Allotment A..	2, Spring Bank-villas, Park Close Road, Alton.
Yorks.....	6474	New Edlington Allotment.....	36, Church-road, Edlington, Doncaster.
Durham	6475	Sacriston Amateur Gardening A..	17, Hunter - street, Sacriston, Durham.
Yorks.....	6476	Criggleshstone and District Allotment and Gardeners' A.	The Dépôt, Alphacottages, Criggleshstone, Wakefield.
Monmouth ...	6477	Blaina and District Co-operative Allotment A.	Tonteg, Surgery-road, Blaina, Mon.
Glamorgan ...	6478	Cadoxton Gardeners.....	Royal Hotel, Cadoxton, Barry, Glam.
Carmarthen ..	6479	Cwmaman Allotment and Garden.	2, Coronation - road, Garnant, Carmarthen.
Durham	6480	Kirk Merrington Allotments.....	3, South-view, Kirk Merrington, Ferryhill, Co. Durham.
Surrey.....	6481	Godstone Allotment Holders.....	Flower Lodge, Godstone, Surrey.
Bedford	6482	Dunstable and District Labour Club and Institute.	Kirby-rd., Dunstable.
Chester	6483	Dewsnap Railwaymen's Allotment Holders.	94, Bennett - street, Newton, Hyde.

County.	No.	Name of Society.	Registered Office.
ENGLAND AND WALES— <i>con.</i>			
Durham	6484	Shildons and District Small-holders and Allotments.	7, Graham-terrace, New Shildon, Co. Durham.
Hereford	6485	Dinmore and District Farmers' C.	Dinmore Factory, Hereford.
Middlesex	6486	Hayes Working Men's Club and Institute.	Station-road, Hayes, Middlesex.
Nottingham ..	6487	Nottingham and District Amalgamated Society of Engineers' Club and Institute.	Clubhouse, Newcastle Chambers, Angel-row, Nottingham.
Yorks.....	6488	Piccadilly Allotment A.	High House, Piccadilly, Swinton, Rotherham.
Glamorgan....	6489	Llanharra and District Allotment.	53, Bridgend Road, Llanharra, Pontyclun, Glamorgan.
Northumbrlnd.	6490	Hirst East-end Allotments	61, Castle-terr., Ashington, Northumberland.
Durham	6491	Eldon Valley Allotment and Smallholdings.	1, Brook-st., Cowdon Grange, Bishop Auckland.
Lancs.....	6492	East-road Gorton Allotment.	Pavilion, East-road Allotment, Gorton, Manchester.
Glamorgan....	6493	Cowbridge Borough and Rural District Allotment.	Riverside Cottage, Aberthyn, Cowbridge, Glam.
Glamorgan....	6494	Coity Allotment and Gardeners' A	Spencer-road, Coity, Bridgend.
Somerset	6495	Bridgwater Allotments A.	21, Penel Osliou, Bridgwater, Somerset.
Stafford	6496	Baddeley Green, Baddeley Edge and Bagnall Allotments A.	School House, Bagnall, Stoke-on-Trent.
Glamorgan....	6497	Abercanaid and District Food Production.	11, Cardiff-st., Abercanaid, Glamorgan.
Carmarthen...	6498	West Wales Farmers' Dairy	Uwchgwilli, Peniel, Carmarthen.
Yorks.....	6499	Loftus Working-men's Club and Institute.	Market-place, Loftus, Yorks.
Lancs.	6500	Clitheroe Allotment Holders and Gardeners' A.	19, Cowper-avenue, Clitheroe.
Warwick.....	6501	B.W.A. C.	2, James Watt-street, Birmingham.
Durham	6502	South Shields Irish National Working-men's Club and Institute.	3 & 5, Keppel-street, South Shields.
Cornwall.....	6503	Portloe Fishermen's C.	Sea View-ter., Portloe, Grampound-road, Cornwall.
Hereford.....	6504	Bridge Sollars and District Dairy.	The Knapp, Bridge Sollars, Hereford.

County.	No.	Name of Society.	Registered Office.
ENGLAND AND WALES— <i>con.</i>			
Durham	6505	Bishop Middleham Allotments. ..	5, Church-st., Bishop Middleham, Ferry Hill, co. Durham.
Durham	6506	West Auckland Allotment.	14, Post Office-square, West Auckland, Bishop Auckland.
Surrey.....	6507	Merton and Morden C. Pig and Live Stock.	138, Kingston-road, Merton, S.W.19.
Northampton..	6508	Finedon Allotment and Garden- ing A.	Town Hall, Finedon, Wellingborough.
Durham	6509	Witton Park and District Allot- ment and Smallholding.	1, Garden-st., Witton Park, co. Durham.
London	6510	C. Property Investment A.	24, Bedford-row, W.C.1
Somerset	6511	Sparkford Vale C. Dairy	Home Farm, Sparkford, Bath.
Durham	6512	Hummersknott Allotments and Smallholdings A.	Tubwell Row Build- ings, Market-place, Darlington.
Gloucester	6513	Frampton and District Growers..	Kimberley House, Frampton-on- Severn, St'nehouse, Glos.
Hertford	6514	Broxbourne Allotment.....	Paul's Garden, Brox- bourne, Herts.
Suffolk	6515	Lowestoft Labour Club and Insti- tute.	Lowestoft Labour Club and Institute, The Marina, Lowestoft.
Lancs.....	6516	Humphrey Park Allotments A.	10, Firwood-avenue, Stretford, Man'ter.
Somerset	6517	Burnham-on-Sea and District Growers' A.	The Warren, Burn- ham, Somerset.
Glamorgan....	6518	Trehafod Allotments A.	19, Lewis-street, Tre- hafod, Pontypridd.
Warwick	6519	Birmingham Table Rabbit	Room 48, 3, New-st., Birmingham.
Surrey	6520	Wimbledon and District C. Pig and Live Stock.	51, Broadway, Wim- bledon, S.W.19.
London	6521	National Utility Rabbit A.	124, Victoria - street, S.W.1.
Chester	6522	Altrincham & District C. Drying Shed.	Clanver, Green-lane, Timperley, Altrin- cham.
Yorks.....	6523	Darton and District Smallholders and Allotments.	18, Alan-road, Darton, Barnsley.
Glamorgan	6524	Glamorgan Collieries Allotments A	49, Sherwood - place, Llwynypia (Rhon- dda), Glam.
Yorks.....	6525	Swaine Hill Allotment.....	8, Fernbank - terrace, Yeadon, Leeds.
Derby	6526	Renishaw Allotments A.	Schoolhouse, Reni- shaw, Chesterfield.

County.	No.	Name of Society.	Registered Office.
ENGLAND AND WALES— <i>con.</i>			
Stafford	6527	Norton - in - Moors Allotment Holders' A.	"Trent View," Norton-in-the-Moors, Stoke-on-Trent
Somerset	6528	North Town (Taunton) Allotments.	24, Greenbrook-ter., Taunton.
Lancs.....	6529	Moseley-road and District Allotments A. (Levenshulme).	90, Monica Grove, Slade-lane, Levenshulme, M'ncaster
Dorset.....	6530	Moreton Allotment and Smallholders.	The Gardens, Moreton House, near Dorchester.
Nottingham ..	6531	Mansfield Woodhouse Garden Holders' A.	62, Thoresby - road, Mansfield Woodhouse, Mansfield.
Somerset	6532	Long Ashton & District Gardens and Allotments A.	Warren Lane, Long Ashton, Bristol.
Nottingham ..	6533	Klondyke Allotment A.	54, Beauvale - road, Meadows, Nottingham.
Durham	6534	Jarrow R.A.O.B. Social Club and Institute.	96, Ellison - street, Jarrow.
Kent	6535	Bee Supplies and Products C A...	36, High-st., Dartford.
Glamorgan ...	6536	Bargoed and Giltfach Allotment Holders' A.	79, Park-rd., Bargoed, Cardiff.
Denbigh	6537	Vale of Clwyd Poultry	Waen Prion, D'nigh.
Stafford	6538	Tomkin and District Farmers' C..	Lady Green, Cheddleton, Leek.
Durham	6539	Coundon & District Allotment A.	6, East-av., Coundon, Bishop Auckland.
Chester	6540	Northenden Allotment Holders' A.	82, Palatine - road, Northenden, Manchester.
Warwick.....	6541	Leamington North End Allotments A.	12, Champion-road, Leamington.
Glamorgan ...	6542	Abergorchy Allotment A. (Treorchy).	2, Ramah-street, Treorchy (Rhondda), Glam.
Glamorgan....	6543	Ystrad Mynach and District Pig-keeping A.	2, Duffryn-st., Ystrad, Mynach, Cardiff.
Glamorgan....	6544	Porthcawl and District Piggeries and Allotment A.	43, Victoria-avenue, Porthcawl, Glam.
Lancs.....	6545	Worsley & District Allotments A.	247, Walkden - road, Worsley, Manchester.
Yorks.....	6546	Loftus Allotment	"Nunroyd," West-road, Loftus.
Salop	6547	Shropshire Produce C.	9, Mardol Head, Shrewsbury.
Warwick	6548	Rugby Workers' Union (Engineering Branch) Club and Institute	26, Lawford - road, Rugby.
London	6549	Workers' Union Social Club	374, Wandsworth-rd., Clapham, S.W.8
Devon	6550	Devonshire Fruit and Vegetable..	37, Queen-st., Exeter.

County.	No.	Name of Society.	Registered Office.
ENGLAND AND WALES—con.			
Durham	6551	Witton Gilbert Garden A.	Till Sheds, Witton Gilbert, Durham.
Durham	6552	Leadgate Victoria Working Men's Club and Institute.	2, St. Ives - road, Leadgate, Durham.
Somerset	6553	Wellington (Somerset) & District Allotment and Gardens A.	68, Waterloo-road, Wellington, Soms't
Lancs.....	6554	Rusholme and District Allotments A.	55, Carlton-avenue, Rusholme, Manchester.
Yorks.....	6555	Idle and District Utility Poultry A.	1, Jasper-st., High-st., Idle, Bradford.
Middlesex	6556	Golder's Green Smallholdings ...	The House of E. E. Marshall, Highfield-road, Golder's Green, N.W.4.
Durham	6557	Easington Colliery Allotments and Smallholdings.	23, Back Seaside-lane, Easington Colliery, Durham.
Monmouth....	6558	Bedwas and District Allotment ..	13, Newport - road, Bedwas, Cardiff.
Northampton .	6559	Denford Smallholders	The Residence of Leonard Samuel Groom, Denford, Thrapston.
Middlesex	6560	Southall Pig	The Co-operative Hall, 2, King-street, Southall.
Yorks.....	6561	Great Horton Poultry.....	158, Old-road, Horton Bank Top, Bradford.
Yorks.....	6562	Low Wincobank Gardeners.....	18, Woolley Wood-road, Wincobank, Sheffield.
Stafford	6563	Staffordshire Fruit and Vegetable.	The County - buildings, Stafford.
Cornwall.....	6564	Tamar Valley and District Basket and Box-making Factory	Higher Kelly, Calstock, Cornwall.
Flint	6565	Mador Farmers' Machine	Tybroughton, near Whitechurch.
Yorks.....	6566	Mirfield Garden Suburbs.....	Exchange - buildings, Mirfield, York.
Durham	6567	South Hetton Allotment and Garden.	78, Front-st., South Hetton, Sunderland
Yorks..	6568	Sharlston and District Allotment A.	4. The Avenue, Sharlston, Wakefield.
Middlesex ...	6569	Highgate Allotment Holders' Mutual Pig-rearing.	60, High-street, Highgate, N.6.
Durham	6570	Clifford-road Garden A.	26, Clifford-road, Stanley, Durham.
Yorks.....	6571	Fitzwilliam Horticultural	6, Wentworth-terrace, Fitzwilliam, Wakefield.
Durham	6572	No Place (Beamish) Allotment A..	106, John-street, Co-operative-villas, Beamish, Durham.

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ENGLAND AND WALES— <i>con.</i>			
Glamorgan....	6573	Penarth Piggeries A.....	P.S.A. Institute, Windsor-arcade, Penarth.
Yorks.....	6574	Eastmoor Allotment.....	143, Stanley-rd., East- moor, Wakefield.
Durham	6575	Dean Bank and Ferryhill Allot- ment A.	38, Faraday - street, Dean Bank, Ferry- hill, Durham
Carmarthen...	6576	Carmarthen and District Allot- ments A.	Y.M.C.A., Blue - st., Carmarthen.
Middlesex	6577	Gothic C. Pig and Live Stock	The Gothic Works, Angel-road, Upper Edmonton, N.18.
Somerset	6578	Keynsham Growers' A.	7, St. Keyna - road, Keynsham, Bristol.
Lincoln	6579	Skegness and District Allotment A.	Roman Bank, Skeg- ness, Lincs.
Chester	6580	Manchester and Salford Federa- tion of Allotment A.	Rotherwood, Moor- lane, Wilmslow, Manchester.
Kent	6581	New Barn and District C.	Hilsboro', New Barn, Longfield, Kent.
Surrey	6582	Putney Common C. Pig and Live Stock.	25, Fanthorpe-street, Putney, S.W.15.
Somerset	6583	Luckwell Allotments A.	175, Luckwell - road, Bedminster, Bristol
Durham	6584	Leeholme and District Allotment A.	Leeholme Institute, Leeholme, Coundon
Glamorgan ...	6585	Llanharan and District C.	The Stores, The Square, Llan- haran, Pontyclun. Glamorgan.
London	6586	Wandsworth Gas Works C. Pig ..	Gas Works, Fairfield- street, Wandsworth, S.W.18.
Sussex.....	6587	Balcombe Allotments and Gardens	Bellevue, London - road, Balcombe, Hayward's Heath.
Leicester	6588	Beacon-road Allotment Holders' A.	20, Wards-end, Loughborough.
Chester	6589	Altrincham, Bowdon, Hale and District Allotments.	3, Huxley-st., Broad- heath, Altrincham.
Yorks.....	6590	Earby and District Utility Poultry	12, Sandholme - ter., Salterforth - lane, Earby, Colne.
Leicester	6591	Ibstock and District Allotments and Smallholdings.	100, Melbourne-road, Ibstock, Leicester.
Middlesex	6592	Elms-lane (Sudbury) Allotment and Pig.	St. Hilda's, London- road, Harrow.
Warwick	6593	Collycroft Allotment.....	250, Marston - lane, Marston Jabbett, Nuneaton.

County.	No.	Name of Society.	Registered Office.
ENGLAND AND WALES— <i>con.</i>			
Glamorgan ...	*6594	Llantwit Vardre C.	Stores, Newtown, Llantwit Vardre, Pontypridd.
Middlesex	6595	Hanwell and District Pig and Live Stock.	29, Clitherow-road, Hanwell, W.7.
Lincoln	6596	Long Bennington Allotments and Gardens A.	Woodbine-house, Long Bennington, Grantham.
Nottingham ..	6597	West-end Freeholders (Mansfield).	31, George-street, Mansfield.
Kent	6598	Meopham and Nursted Village ..	The Homestead, Meopham, Gravesend.
Lancs.	6599	Kersal Vale Allotment and Horticultural A.	29, Mackenzie-road, Lower Kersal, Manchester.
London	6600	Islington and District Labour Club and Institute.	295, Upper-street, Islington, N.1.
Yorks.....	6601	Bannerdale Piggeries	48, Plymouth-road, Abbeydale, Sheffield.
Buckingham ..	6602	Beaconsfield and District C. Milk Supply.	Elmslie, Burkes-rd., Beaconsfield, Bucks.
Oxford	6603	Berks., Bucks. and Oxon Farmers	High-street, Thame.
Chester	6604	Sale and District Allotment Holders' A.	'Hawthorn,' Barker's-lane, Ashton-on-Mersey, Sale, Manchester.
Warwick	6605	Exhall and Newdigate Collieries Piggeries A.	Bedw'rh Brickw'rks, nr. Nuneaton.
Lincoln	6606	Messrs. John Lysaght's Employees' Food Production.	Normanby Park Steel Works, Scunthorpe, Lincs.
Warwick.....	6607	Keresley & Coundon Piggeries A.	"The Roselands," Brownhill Green, nr. Coventry.
Northumbrlnd.	6608	North Seaton Poultry	79, Second Single row, North Seaton, Newbiggin-by-the-Sea, Northumberland.
Yorks.	6609	Wincobank & Blackburn Liberal Club Ltd.	Dara-street, Wincobank, Sheffield.
Surrey	6610	Mitcham and District C. Pig and Live Stock.	"Ioua," 7, Clarendon-grove, Mitcham.
Lincoln	6611	Great Gonerby Allotment Holders' A.	Gonerby Hill Foot, Grantham
London	6612	Hammersmith C. Piggery	Town Hall, Hammersmith, W.6.
Monmouth....	6613	Pentwynmawr C.	High-st., Pentwynmawr, Newbridge, Newport, Mon.
Gloucester	6614	Tewkesbury and District Allotments A.	131, High-st., Tewkesbury.

* Transfer of engagements to Ynysbwl Industrial Co operative Society Ltd., 2891, Glam.

County.	No.	Name of Society.	Registered Office.
ENGLAND AND WALES— <i>con.</i>			
Lancs.....	6615	Orrell Park Allotments A.....	26, Victoria-drive, Orrell Park, Liver- pool.
Hants	6616	Andover & District Allotment A.	Springfield-villas, 82, Millway-road, Andover.
Dorset.....	6617	Bridport & District Allotment A.	8, North Mills, Brid- port.
Yorks	6618	Goldthorpe and District Allot- ment	41, High-street, Gold- thorpe, Rotherham.
Stafford	6619	Uplands and Londonderry Pig- keeping.	Holly Bush Inn, Up- lands, Smethwick.
Derby	6620	New Mills and District Allot- ments A.	Trades Hall, New Mills, Stockport.
Devon	6621	Hope Cove Fishermen's C.	Cove Cottage, Hope Cove, Kingsbridge.
Northumbrlnd.	6622	Grainger Social Club & Institute.	6, Graingerville South, Newcastle- upon-Tyne.
Berks	6623	Berkshire Fruit and Vegetable...	12, Blagare-street, Reading.
Somerset	6624	Somerset Fruit and Vegetable ...	5, Graham-road, Weston-s-Mare.
Wilts	6625	Wiltshire Fruit and Vegetable ..	Castle-street, Trow- bridge.
Yorks.....	6626	East Bradford Utility Poultry ...	66, Newlands-place, Bradford.
Warwick	6627	Small Heath District Workers' Union Recreation	45-47, Golden Hillock- road, Small Heath, Birmingham.
Warwick	6628	Workers' Union, City Social Club and Institute.	163, Moor-street, Birmingham.
Lancs.	6629	Lees and District Garden and Allotment A.	1, Lees-square, Lees, Oldham.
Carnarvon	6630	North Wales Fruit and Vegetable	Llandudno Junction, Conway.
Surrey	6631	Sopwith Employees' Mutual A...	4, Station-buildings, Fife-rd., Kingston- on-Thames.
Cornwall.....	6632	Flushing Women's Fruit-canning C A.	Ivecliff, Flushing, Falmouth.
Middlesex	6633	Chiswick and District C Pig and Live Stock.	4, Ravenscroft-road, Chiswick, W.4.
Northumbrlnd.	6634	Blyth and District Poultry	16a, Thoroton-street, Blyth.
Surrey.....	6635	Maldens and Coombe C. Pig and Live Stock.	Council Offices, New Malden, Surrey.
Nottingham ..	6636	North Notts. Farmers' Trading A.	26, Carlton-rd. Work- sop.
Yorks.	6637	Escrick and District Agricultural Club.	Gillridding Grange, Naburn, York.
Brecon	6638	Hirwain Garden and Allotment	59, Station-road, Hirwain, Aberdare.

County.	No.	Name of Society.	Registered Office.
ENGLAND AND WALES—con.			
Yorks.....	6639	Whitby & District Allotment A.	"Willerby," Mayfield, Whitby.
Middlesex	6640	Ealing and District Pig and Live Stock.	21, Bramley-road, Ealing, W.5.
Warwick	6641	Croop Hill Allotment Holders' A.	41, Newland-st., New Bilton, Rugby.
Stafford	6642	Woolstanton and Basford Park Allotment Holders' A.	10, Basford-road, Basford Park, Stoke-on-Trent.
Durham.....	6643	Fishburn Allotments A.	33, Front-street, Fishburn, Ferryhill, co. Durham.
Durham.....	6644	Carnforth and District Allotments.	High-st., West Carnforth, co. Durham.
Suffolk	6645	Ipswich Allotment Holders' A. ..	42, Holland-road, Ipswich.
Durham.....	6646	Butterknowle and District Allotment Holders' A.	9, South-side, Butterknowle, co. Durham
Durham.....	6647	Leasingthorne Allotments.	19, Larch-ter., Leasingthorne, Bishop Auckland.
Lancs.....	6648	Atherton and District Allotment Holders and Gardeners' A.	44, Elizabeth-street, Atherton, Manchester.
Monmouth....	6649	Abersychan Gardeners	6, The Avenue, Wainfelin, Pontypool.
Stafford	6650	Longton and District Allotments A.	8, Sefton-rd., Longton, Stoke-on-Trent.
Durham.....	6651	Shildon and District Poultry and General Supply A.	North-ter., Shildon, New Shildon, co. Durham.
Surrey	6652	Purley Oaks Allotment Holders' A.	The Gatehouse, Kendall-avenue, South Sandstead, Croydon.
Stafford	6653	Weir and District Farmers' A....	4, Commerce-street, Longton, Stoke-on-Trent.
Stafford	6654	Madeley, Leycett and District Gardeners' A.	23, Long-row, Madeley Heath, Crewe.
Yorks.....	6655	Normanton Common and District Allotment Holders' A.	259, Castleford-road, Normanton, Yorks.
Yorks.....	6656	Leeds and District Utility Poultry A.	1, Lumley-place, Burley, Leeds.
Stafford	6657	Handsworth and District Allotment and C. Pig.	The Station Inn, Booth-st., Handsworth, Birmingham
Stafford	6658	Stone and District Farmers' C. ..	Beech Cliffe, New-castle, Staffs.
Berks.....	6659	Inkpen Garden and Allotment Holders'	Council School, Inkpen, Hungerford.
Stafford	6660	Tettenhall and District Allotment and Garden A.	10, College-road, Tettenhall, Wolverhampton.

County.	No.	Name of Society.	Registered Office.
ENGLAND AND WALES— <i>con.</i>			
Surrey.....	6661	Cranleigh Pig	1, Bank-bldgs., Cranleigh, Guildford.
Devon	6662	West Devon Agricultural C. Threshing A.	Lyles, Bradworthy, Holsworthy.
Stafford	6663	Victory Working Men's Club and Institute.	2, Cliff-street, Nettlebank, Smallthorne, Stoke-on-Trent.
Essex	6664	Essex Fruit and Vegetable C. ..	The Institute of Agriculture, Chelmsford
Chester	6665	Dukinfield Allotment Holders' A. .	18, Grenville-street, Dukinfield, Ches.
Yorks.....	6666	Bradford Retail Butchers' A. (Live Stock Section).	68, Manningham-l'ne, Bradford.
Surrey	6667	Haling Down Allotment	93, South-end, Croydon.
Northumbrlnd.	6668	Rosehill Social Club and Institute.	10, Wellington-ter., Rosehill, Willington Quay, Northumberland.
Warwick.....	6669	Leam-terrace Allotment A.....	148, Leam-terrace, Leamington Spa.
Gloucester	6670	Fishponds Pig and Live Stock ...	31, Causeway, Fishponds, Bristol.
Worcester	6671	Murcot C.	Murcot Mill, Broadway, Worcester.
Yorks.....	6672	Burley-in-Wharfedale Amalgamated Trading.	7, Grange-field-avenue, Burley-in-Wharfedale, Leeds.
Northampton .	6673	Northamptonshire Fruit and Vegetable.	County Education Offices, Northampton.
Stafford	6674	Penkridge Farmers' Auctions....	Penkridge, Stafford.
Stafford	6675	Codsall and District Garden and Allotment Holders' A.	The Parish Room, Codsall, Wolverhampton.
Middlesex	6676	Willesden C. Pig.....	Municipal Offices, Dyne-rd., Kilburn, N.W.6.
Derby	6677	Doe Lea Allotment Holders' A. .	8, Garden-row, Doe Lea, Chesterfield.
Northampton .	6678	Spinney Hill Allotment	102, Cedar-road, Northampton.
Durham	6679	New Seaham and District Allotments A.	3, Clark's-ter, New Seaham, Seaham Harbour, Durham.
Chester	6680	Cheshire, Shropshire, and North Wales Farmers' Supply A.	36, High-street, Nantwich.
London	6681	Poplar and District C. Pig and Live Stock.	4, Charteris-terrace, Cubitt Town, E 14.
Yorks.....	6682	Mortomley Piggeries.....	120, Mortomley-road, Chapel town, Sheffield.

County.	No.	Name of Society.	Registered Office.
ENGLAND AND WALES— <i>con.</i>			
Glamorgan ...	6683	Ferndale Piggeries A.	32, Ffaldan-ter., Ferndale, Rhondda, Glamorgan.
Yorks.....	6684	Masbro' and District Pig	2, Red House Inn, Masbro', Rotherh'm
Stafford	6685	Merridale Allotments	55, Cheshire-road, Smethwick, Staffs.
Yorks.....	6686	Bramley & District Smallholders	1, Ganner-place, Bramley, Leeds.
Warwick	6687	Canley (Coventry) Garden	34, Radford, Coventry.
Lancs.	6688	Astley Allotment Holders and Gardeners' A.	311, Manchester-road, Astley, Manchester.
Devon.....	6689	Combe Martin Fishermen's C. ..	Hammond's Cottage, Combe Martin, Devon.
Hertford	6690	Watford Pig and Live Stock	166, Whippendell-rd., Watford.
Lancs.....	6691	South-East Liverpool Allotment Holders' A.	10, Glenfield-road, Wavertree, Liverpool.
Northumbrlnd.	6692	Tynemouth and District Working Men's Social Club and Institute	Sea View Cottage, East-street, Tynemouth, B.O., N'rth Shields.
Denbigh	6693	Llandyrnog Cheese Factory	The Green, Llandyrnog, Denbigh.
Montgomery ..	6694	Berriew District Farmers' C.....	The Beedies, Berriew, Montgomery.
Gloucester ...	6695	Gloucestershire Fruit & Vegetable	"Denmere," 1, Tredworth-rd., Gloucs.
Yorks.....	6696	Brighouse Fanciers' and Utility Trading.	166, Thornhill-road, Rastrick, Brighouse
Yorks.....	6697	Lingdale and District Working Men's Club and Institute.	High-st., Lingdale, Boosbeck, Yorks.
Buckingham ..	6698	Wolverton District Allotment A..	46, Jersey-road, Wolverton, Bucks.
Durham	6699	South-East Durham Province R.A.O.B. Institute.	Old Shotton-lane, Shotton Colliery.
Anglesey.....	6700	Newborough Matmakers' A.	Carrog House, Newborough, Bodorgan, Anglesey.
Lancs.	6701	Wavertree Labour & Social Club	13-15, Picton-road, Liverpool.
London	6702	Ealing Common Piggery & Live Stock.	Albert Stanley Inst., Hammersmith, W6.
Stafford	6703	Fenton Allotment Holders' A. ..	162, Regent-road, Fenton, Stoke-on-Trent.
Hertford..	6704	North Watford Allotment	159, Sandringham-road, Watford.
Nottingham ..	6705	Hickling Farmers.....	Hickling, Melton Mowbray.

County.	No.	Name of Society.	Registered Office.
ENGLAND AND WALES—con.			.
Chester	6706	Wallasey Labour Properties	75, Seaview-road, Wallasey.
Stafford	6707	Burslem and District Allotment Holders' A	337, Sneyd-street, Burslem, B.O., Stoke-on-Trent.
Northumbrlnd.	6708	Dudley Allotment and Garden A..	3, Hazelrigg-street, Dudley, Northumberland.
Lincoln	6709	Grantham & District Allotments A.	150, Bridge-end-road, Grantham.
Durham	6710	Easington Village Allotments Small Holding.	Rosemary-lane, Easington, Easington Colliery, co. Durham.
Durham	6711	South Stanley Allotment A.	7, Ritson-st., Stanley, Durham.
Chester	6712	Cheshire Fruit and Vegetable	Brookfield, Middlewich, Cheshire.
Yorks.	6713	Altofts Allotment A.	9, Co-operative-ter., Altofts, Norman-ton, Yorks.
Yorks.	6714	Armley and Wortley District Live Stock A.	10, Cromer-terrace, Armley, Leeds.
Glamorgan	6715	Crynant and District C.	Society's Stores, Crynant, Neath.
Derby	6716	Bonsall and District Agricultural C.	The Chestnuts, Bonsall, Matlock.
Durham	6717	Trimdon Village Allotment.....	The Vicarage, Trimdon, Trimdon Grange, Durham.
Northumbrlnd.	6718	Wallsend East End Workmen's Club and Institute.	55, Coach-rd., Wallsend, Northumberland.
Yorks.	6719	Ackworth Allotment	Belgrave, Ackworth, Pontefract.
Dorset	6720	Dorset County and West Hants Fruit and Vegetable.	The County Offices, Dorchester.
Durham	6721	Coxhoe and District Allotments	9, The Avenue, Coxhoe, Durham.
Stafford	6722	Boothem, Trent Vale, and Oakhill Allotment Holders' A.	116, Campbell-road, Stoke-on-Trent.
Warwick	6723	Women's Institute Toy	59, Chamber of Commerce, New-street, Birmingham.
Stafford..	6724	Stafford & District Allotments A.	86, Sandon-road, Stafford.
Lancs.	6725	Middleton and District Allotment Holders and Gardeners' A.	482, Oldham-road, Middleton, Manchester.
Northampton..	6726	Thrapston Allotments	Bridge-st., Thrapston.
Devon	6727	Barnstaple and District Allotments A.	19, Grosvenor-street, Barnstaple.

County.	No.	Name of Society.	Registered Office.
ENGLAND AND WALES— <i>con.</i>			
Devon	6728	Budleigh Salterton Allotment A.	Vermont, Budleigh Salterton, Devon.
Chester	6729	Birkenhead Amalgamated Engineers' Club and Institute	83, Price-st., Birkenhead.
Cornwall.....	6730	Tregony and District Farmers ..	Tregony Cheese Factory, Tregony, Grampound - road, Cornwall.
Yorks.	6731	Dewsbury Allotment A.	24, Westgate, Dewsbury.
Warwick.....	6732	Rugby & District Poultry Keepers	9, George-st., Rugby.
Berks.....	6733	Didcot & District C. Slaughtery...	Slaughtery, Didcot, Berks.
Yorks.	6734	Ilkley Poultry & Smallholders' A.	Bank-chams., Ilkley.
Derby	6735	Derbyshire Fruit and Vegetable S.	County Offices, Derby
Stafford	6736	Blythe Bridge & District Garden Food A.	2, Church-ter., Blythe Bridge, Stoke-on-T.
Devon	6737	Alphington Allotment Holders ..	The Institute, Alphington, Exeter
London	6738	National Union of Enginemen, Firemen, Motormen, and Electrical Workers' Trade Union Club and Institute.	32, London-street, Greenwich, S.E.10.
Northumbri nd .	6739	Blyth and District Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes, Club and Institute.	Meldrum House, Waterloo - road, Blyth, Cowpen Quay.
Yorks.	6740	Otley Allotments Trading	23, Manor-st., Otley.
Chester	6741	Stalybridge Allotment Holders ..	100, Wakefield - road, Stalybridge.
Lancs.....	6742	Farnworth & District Allotments A.	80, Campbell-street, Farnworth, Lancs.
Flint	6743	Nerquis and District C. Cheese-making.	The Factory, Nerquis, Mold.
Lancs.....	6744	Orrell Allotment Holders' A.	142, Orrell-rd., Orrell, Wigau.
Montgomery ..	6745	Caersws and District Dairy Farmers' C.	Roefach, Llandinam, Montgomery.
Durham	6746	Winlaton New West End Social Club and Institute.	Caledonia House, Winlaton, Blaydon-on-Ty ^{ne} , Durham.
Middlesex	6747	Services Rendered Club	"Altamira," Stonebridge Park, Harlesden, Middlesex.
Stafford	7748	Burton and District Allotment . Holders' A.	27, Malvern - street, Stapenhill, Burton-on-Trent.
Durham	6749	Cockfield Allotment	Warehouse, Hawes Yard, Cockfield, Durham.
Cornwall	6750	Lavannick and District Farmers..	Plusha Cheese Factory, L'vannick, Launceston.

County.	No.	Name of Society.	Registered Office.
ENGLAND AND WALES— <i>con.</i>			
Durham	6751	Mount Pleasant Allotment	104, Upper Church-street, Spen'ymoor.
London	6752	Hairdressers' Rendezvous	12, Archer-st., Shaftesbury-avenue, W.1.
Suffolk.	6753	Rattlesden and District Farmers' C.	"The Mill," Rattlesden, Bury St. Edmunds
Derby	6754	Marsden Moor Allotments A.	62, Worksop-road, Marsden Moor, Chesterfield.
Warwick	6755	Campion Hill Allotments A.	The Fox and Vivian Inn, Clarendon-av., Leamington.
Cornwall.	6756	St Neot and District Dairies	St. Neot Cheese Factory, St. Neot, Liskeard.
Lancs.	6757	Oswaldtwistle Poultry and Allotment Holders' A.	97, Catlow Hall-st., Oswaldtwistle, Accrington.
Northumbrlnd.	6758	Tweedside N.F.U. C. Slaughter-house.	East Money Laws, Cornhill-on-Tweed, Northumberland.
Lincoln	6759	Welbourn and District Allotment and Smallholding A.	The Green, Welbourn, Lincoln.
Buckingham	6760	Buckinghamshire Fruit and Vegetable.	29, New-st., Aylesbury.
Durham	6761	Willington, Victoria Allotment A.	16, Russell-place, Willingt'n, Durh'm
Yorks.	6762	Wrenthorpe and District Smallholders.	6, Robin Hood-terrace, Wrenthorpe, Wakefield.
London	6763	Deptford Workers' Union Social Club and Institute.	70, Blackheath-road, Greenwich, S.E.10.
Stafford	6764	Smallthorne and District Allotment A.	46, Leek-road, Smallthorne, Stoke-on-Trent.
Stafford	6765	Hartshill and Basford District Allotment Holders' A.	14, Vicarage-road, Hartshill, Stoke-on-Trent.
Denbigh	6766	Llanrwst Farmers' Yard	Ty Gwyn, Llanddewi, Llanrwst, Denbigh.
Stafford	6767	Northwood & Providence Wards Allotment Holders' A.	78, Campbell-terrace, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent.
Glamorgan	6768	Hibernian Institute Allotment A.	Hibernian Institute, Gelli Pentre, Rhondda, Glam.
Durham	6769	Consett and District Allotment ..	15, The Avenue, Consett, Durham.
Nottingham	6770	Foxhill and District Garden Holders' A.	20, Dale-road, Carlton Hill, Nottingham.
Yorks.	6771	West Guiseley Allotment	Primitive Methodist Institute, Cassfield, Guiseley, Leeds.

County.	No.	Name of Society.	Registered Office.
ENGLAND AND WALES— <i>con.</i>			
Surrey.....	6772	Croydon Vacant Lands Cultivation	46, High-st., Croydon.
London	6773	National Town Food Supply A...	15, New Bridge-street, London, E.C.4.
Warwick	6774	Fenny Compton Smallholdings and Allotment.	Fern Cottage, Fenny Compton, Leaming- ton Spa.
Warwick.....	6775	Dordon Workingmen's Allotment A.	41, Whitehouse-road, Dordon, Tamworth.
Essex	6776	Ceres Co-operative.....	30, Oakleigh Park Drive, Leigh-on- Sea, Essex.
Cornwall.....	6777	Camborne & District Allotments A.	3, Cadogan-terrace, Camborne.
Lancs	6778	Middleton Junction & District Utility Poultry.	11, Church-st., Mid- dleton, Manchester.
Essex	6779	Woodford Co-operative Pig Club..	End House, Prospect- rd., Woodford Gr'n
Yorks.	6780	Rylstone & District Agricultural Trading A.	Threapland House, Cracoe, Skipton.
Yorks.....	6781	Whitwood Allotments	8, Common-row, Whitwood, Nor- manton, Yorks.
Northumbrlnd.	6782	Northumbrian N. F. U. C. Slaughter-houses.	Market Hotel, 2, Forth-place, New- castle-on-Tyne.
Durham	6783	Hartlepool Working Men's Club..	High-st., Hartlepool.
II.—SCOTLAND.			
Inverness	646	Lochaber and District	Masonic Buildings, High-street, Fort William.
Inverness	647	Lochboisdale Agricultural C.	Lochboisdale, South Uist.
Midlothian ..	648	*North British Newspapers	23, Rutland-square, Edinburgh.
Lanark	649	Biggar & District War Garden C.	War Garden Depôt, Biggar.
Argyle.....	650	Ardnamurchan Agricultural C. ..	Kilchoan, Argyle.
Peebles	651	Peebles-shire Garden Produce ...	Town Clerk's Office, Peebles.
Haddington ..	652	East Lothian Women's Trading Institution.	Schoolhouse, Mac- merry.
Argyle...	653	Colonsay Agricultural C.	Colonsay, Argyle.
Inverness	654	Eriskay Agricultural C.	Eriskay, Lochbois- dale, Inverness.
Inverness	655	South Harris Agricultural C.	Obbe, Harris, Inver- ness.
Forfar.....	656	Glamis Women's Trading A.	Glamis, Forfarshire.
Bute	657	Bute C.....	7, East Princes-street, Rothesay.
Inverness	658	West Barra Agricultural C.....	14, Cleat, Barra.

* This is a conversion from a company under the Companies Acts.

County.	No.	Name of Society.	Registered Office.
SCOTLAND—con.			
Inverness	659	Vatersay Agricultural C.	Vatersay, Castle Bay, Inverness.
Inverness	660	Castle Bay Agricultural C.	Castle Bay, Barra.
Aberdeen	661	East Aberdeenshire Horse Breeding.	Maud, Aberdeenshire.
Inverness	662	North Bay Agricultural C.	North Bay, Barra, Inverness
Ross-shire	663	Kinlochewe Agricultural C.	Heights, Kinlochewe.
Ross-shire	664	Gairloch Agricultural C.	Drumdarroch, Gairloch, Ross-shire.
Ayrshire	665	Wyllieland Agricultural C.	Wyllieland, Fenwick, Ayrshire.
Forfar	666	St. Vigeans Agricultural C.	Little Cairnie, Arbroath.
Caithness	667	Lieurary Agricultural C.	Westfield, Thurso.
Aberdeen ...	668	Culvie and District Agricultural C.	Culvie Public School, by Huntly.
Caithness	669	Portskerra Agricultural C.	School, Portskerra, Melvich by Thurso.
Caithness	670	Downreay Agricultural C.	Downreay Public School, by Thurso.
Sutherland ...	671	Scourie Agricultural C.	Scourie, Lairg, Sutherland.
Sutherland ...	672	Strath Halladale Agricultural C.	Public School, Dalhalvaig, Forsinard, Sutherland.
Caithness	673	Armadale Thurso Agricultural C..	The School, Armadale by Thurso.
Caithness	674	Skerray Agricultural C.	Skerray School Skerray by Thurso.
Sutherland ...	675	Melness Agricultural C.	Public School, Melness, Tongue, Sutherland.
Caithness ...	676	Clyth Agricultural C.	Achavar Occunster, Clyth, Wick.
Inverness	677	Kiltarlity Agricultural C.	Bruiachs, Kiltarlity by Beaully, Inverness.
Forfar	678	Glamis Agricultural C.	Schoolhouse, Glamis.
Perthshire ...	679	Fortingall Agricultural C.	Public School, Fortingall, Perthshire.
Perthshire	680	Fearnan Agricultural C.	Public School, Fearnan, Aberfeldy.
Kincardine ...	681	Benholm Agricultural C.	Burnhead, Benholm by Johnshaven.
Inverness	682	Glenurquhart Agricultural C. ...	Balbeg, Glenurquhart, Inverness.
Forfar	683	Colliston Agricultural C.	Colliston Mill, Colliston by Arbroath.
Nairn	684	Cawdor Agricultural C.	Welltown, Cawdor by Nairn
Ross-shire ...	685	Barvas Agricultural C.	The Schoolhouse, Barvas, Stornoway.

County.	No.	Name of Society.	Registered Office.
SCOTLAND—con.			
Sutherland ..	686	Loth Agricultural C.	Schoolhouse, Loth.
Perthshire ...	687	Killin Agricultural C.	Morenish, Killin.
Ross-shire ...	688	Laxdale Agricultural C.	Laxdale Schoolhouse, Stornoway.
Ross-shire ...	689	Carlway Agricultural C. ...	15, Garinin, Carloway, Stornoway.
Sutherland ..	690	Kinlochbervie Agricultural C. ...	Schoolhouse, Kinlochbervie.
Sutherland ..	691	Durine Agricultural C.	Smoo, Durness, Lairg.
Ross-shire ...	692	Back Agricultural C.	59, Back, Lewis.
Ross-shire ...	693	Lurebost Agricultural C.	Lurebost Public School, Stornoway.
Ross-shire ...	694	Marvig and Calbost Agricultural C.	Planasker School, by Crossbost, Stornoway.
Ross-shire ...	695	Cromore Agricultural C.	Mission House, Cromore, Stornoway.
Ross-shire ...	696	Shader and Borge Agricultural C.	The Schoolhouse, Shader, Stornoway.
Ross-shire ...	697	Shawbost Agricultural C.	Schoolhouse, Shawbost, Stornoway.
Ross-shire ...	698	Balallan Agricultural C.	Balallan School, Lochs, Stornoway.
Ross-shire ...	699	Breasclet Agricultural C.	5, Newpark, Callanish, Stornoway.
Ross-shire ...	700	Bragar and Arnol Agricultural C.	Bragar Schoolhouse, Stornoway.
Caithness	701	Janetstown (Thurso) Agricultural C.	Schoolhouse, Janetstown, Thurso.
Aberdeen	702	Fisherie, Overbrae and District Agricultural C.	Overbrae Public School, by Turriff.
Banff.	703	Speybay Agricultural C.	Auchenreath, Port Gordon, Buckie.
Forfar	704	Kinnell Agricultural C.	Kinnell, Arbroath.
Forfar	705	Carmyllie Agricultural C.	West School, Carmyllie, by Arbroath.
Ross-shire ...	706	Aignish Agricultural C.	Schoolhouse, Knock, Stornoway.
Sutherland ..	707	Oldshore Agricultural C.	Oldshore School, Kinlochbervie.
Ross-shire ...	708	Locharron Agricultural C.	Schoolhouse, Lochcarron.
Perthshire ...	709	Ardeonaig Agricultural C.	Ardeonaig Public School, Killin.
Aberdeen	710	Rosehearty Agricultural C.	Public School, Rosehearty.
Aberdeen	711	Cairnorrie Agricultural C.	School, Cairnorrie, Methlick.
Aberdeen	712	Boyndlie Agricultural C.	Boyndlie School, Fraserburgh.
Ross-shire ...	713	Arnisdale Rural C. Credit	Arnisdale, Glenelg, Ross-shire.

County.	No.	Name of Society.	Registered Office.
SCOTLAND— <i>con.</i>			
Caithness	714	Weydale Agricultural C.	Halliday, Thurso.
Lanark	715	Elsrickle Agricultural C.	Crowcraigs, Elsrickle, Biggar.
Forfar	716	Arbirlot Agricultural C.	Schoolhouse, Arbirlot, Arbroath.
Forfar	717	Barry and District Agricultural C..	Barry Mills, Carnoustie.
Forfar	718	Panbride Agricultural C.	Schoolhouse, Panbride, Carnoustie.
Caithness	719	Lanergill Agricultural C.	Schoolhouse, Lanergill, Watten.
Caithness	720	Strathy District Agricultural C..	Cross Roads, Strathy, Thurso.
Ross-shire ...	721	Garrabost Agricultural C.	Schoolhouse, Garrabost, Stornoway.
Ross-shire ...	722	Sandwickhill Agricultural C.	Sandwickhill Schoolhouse, Sandwickhill.
Ross-shire ...	723	Tong Agricultural C.	Schoolhouse, Tong, Stornoway.
Ross-shire ...	724	Coll (Stornoway) Agricultural C..	Outer End, Coll, Stornoway.
Dumfries	725	Royal Four Towns Agricultural C.	The Schoolhouse, Hightae, Dumfries.
Bute	726	Bute Farmers' Trading	11, Albert-place, Rothesay.
Ayrshire ...	727	Garrochburn Dairy A.	Craighead, Harlford.
III.—IRELAND.			
Roscommon ..	1363	Knockcroghery C. Agricultural ..	Knockcroghery.
Cavan	1364	Kill C. Coal Mining	Ballyjamesduff.
Roscommon ..	1365	Kiltoom C. Agricultural	Kiltoom, Athlone.
Meath	1366	Oldcastle C. Agricultural	Oldcastle.
Antrim	1367	Ulster Creameries	Duneane, Randalls- town, Belfast.
Cork	1368	Kildorrery C. Agricultural	Kildorrery.
Tipperary	1369	Ahenny C. Dairy (a conversion from a company into a society).	Ahenny, Carrick-on- Suir.
Down	1370	Downpatrick C. Agricultural	Downpatrick.
Mayo	1371	Crimlin C. Agricultural	Crimlin, Ross W, Castlebar.
Donegal	1372	Raymochy C. Agricultural	Manorcunningham.
Donegal	1373	Convoy C. Flax	Convoy.
Limerick	1374	Broadford Dairy	Broadford, Charle- ville.
Wexford	1375	Wexford Gaelic Hall	9, South Main-street, Wexford.
Down	1376	Mayo Bridge C. Flax & Corn Mills	Mayo Bridge, Newry.
Galway	1377	Killimor C. Agricultural	Killimor.
Meath	1378	Boardsmill C. Agricultural	Batterstown Hall, Trim.

County.	No.	Name of Society.	Registered Office.
IRELAND—con.			
Meath	1379	Navan Food Conservation C.	Urban Council Chambers, Navan.
Limerick	1380	Garryspillane C. Creamery	Newtown, Garryspillane, Knock-long.
Tipperary	1381	Tipperary C. Food	Tipperary.
Sligo	1382	Curry C. Agricultural	Curry.
Tyrone	1383	Seskinore C. Agricultural	Seskinore.
Cork	1384	Milford C. Creamery (a conversion from a company into a society).	Milford, Charleville.
Tipperary	1385	Clogheen C. Creamery	Clogheen.
Cork	1386	Millstreet C. Creamery	Dooneen, Millstreet.
Westmeath ..	1387	Delvin C. Agricultural	Delvin.
Dublin	1388	Waste Salvage	72, Meath-street, Dublin.
Westmeath ..	1389	Killucan C. Milling	Killucan.
Monaghan	1390	Carrickaslane C. Creamery	Carrickaslane, Castleblaney.
Limerick	1391	Killeedy C. Milling	Killeedy, Ballagh, Charleville.
Wicklow	1392	Tinnakilly C. Agricultural	Tinnakilly, Aughrim.
Down	1393	Castlewellan C. Agricultural	Castlewellan.
Galway	1394	Monivea C. Milling and General Purposes.	Monivea, Athenry.
Limerick	1395	Limerick City C.	123, O'Connell-street, Limerick.
Waterford	1396	Finisk C.	Cappagh, Cappagh S.O., Waterford.
Kilkenny	1397	Brandon Vale C. Agricultural and Dairy	Graiguenamanagh.
Wexford	1398	Enniscorthy C. Credit	Abbey Quay, Enniscorthy.
Mayo	1399	Ballycastle Milling	Ballycastle.
Down	1400	Diamond C. Agricultural	Skeogh, Dromara.
Monaghan	1401	Clones Flax and C. Milling	Annalore-st., Clones.
Wicklow	1403	Milltown Co-operative Milling ..	Milltown, Rathnew.
Down	1404	Hilltown Agricultural and Flax ...	Hilltown.
Limerick	1405	Ballynahill C. Farm Implement..	Ballynahill.
Down	1406	Newcastle Allotment Holders' Association	Fernside, Newcastle.
Queen's Co. ..	1407	Mountmellick C. Agricultural	Debby Cott., Mountmellick.
Armagh	1408	Camlough C. Agricultural	Camlough.
Armagh	1409	The Polk Mill Flaxgrowers and Millowners.	Polk Scutch Mill, Drumachee.
Londonderry..	1410	Ballinderry C. Agricultural	Ardagh, Ballinderry Bridge.
Londonderry..	1411	Tullylinkesay C. Agricultural	Tullylinkesay, Castle-dawson.
Fermanagh ..	1412	Enniskillen C. Milling	Enniskillen.
Dublin	1413	Irish Book Shop	45 Dawson-street, Dublin.
Monaghan	1414	Magheraveely C. Agricultural	Magheraveely, Clones

County.	No.	Name of Society.	Registered Office.
IRELAND—con.			
Mayo	1415	Ballycastle C. Agricultural	Ballycastle.
Londonderry ..	1416	Lissan C. Creamery	Tullynure, Lissan.
Armagh	1417	Killylea (co. Armagh) C. Agricultural and Flax.	Toyar, Killylea.
Monaghan	1418	Castleblaney C. Agricultural and Flax.	Lurganmore, Castleblaney.
Tyrone	1419	Corbo C. Agricultural and Dairy.	Creamery, Corbo, Clogher.
Tyrone	1420	Caulfield C. Agricultural & Flax..	Stackernagh, Castlefield.
Cork	1421	Ballinacarriga C. Flax and Agricultural.	Ballinacarriga, Ballineen.
Leitrim	1422	Farnaught C. Agricultural	Clooncahir, Lough Rynn, R.S.O.
King's Co.....	1423	North King's County C. Agricultural.	Tullamore.
Waterford	1424	Mountmelleray Seminary Agricultural Students' C. A.	Mountmelleray Seminary, Cappoquin.
Limerick	1425	Ballinvana C. Creamery (a conversion from a company into a society).	Stookeens, Martins-town, Kilmallock.
Mayo	1426	Attymachugh C. Agricultural....	Attymachugh, Foxford.
Tyrone	1427	Tyrone C. Lime-Burning	Cappagh, Pomeroy.

III.—LIST OF INDUSTRIAL AND PROVIDENT SOCIETIES REMOVED FROM THE REGISTER DURING 1918.

(See Report 11, page 138.)

I.—ENGLAND AND WALES.

County.	No.	Name and Registered Office of Society.	Cause of Removal. Document Registered.
Lancs.	233	Tunstead I.C. Store, Tunstead, Stacksteads, Forest of Rossendale near Manchester.	Amalgamated with Stacksteads Industrial Co-op. Store Ltd., 116 R, Lancs.
Northampton..	637	West Haddon Self - Assistance I.P., West Haddon, Northampton.	Amalgamated with Long Buckby Self-Assistance Industrial Society Ltd., 16 R, North'mpton.
Kent	2196	Penge and Beckenham C., Greenlane, Penge, S.E.20.	Amalgamated with Croydon Co-operative Society Ltd., 2636 R, Surrey.
Kent	2288	Bromley and Crays C., 41, East-street, Bromley, Kent.	Amalgamated with Croydon Co-operative Society 2636 R. Surrey.
Northampton .	2761	Blakesley C., 2. High-st., Blakesley, Towcester.	Final winding-up.
Lancs.	3381	Gaping Goose Hotel Permanent Money, Gaping Goose Hotel, Rochdale-road, Oldham.	Registry Cancelled by request.
Yorks.	3571	Federated Cutlers, 24, Wheeldon-street, Sheffield.	Final winding-up.
Warwick	3580	Andrews C. Watch Manufac'uri'g, 85, Middlesborough-road, Coventry.	Instrument of Dissolution.
Derby	3735	New Freehold L., Sawley, 14, Charnwood-av., New Sawley, Derby.	Instrument of Dissolution, 32, £4.
Hertford	3741	Bishop's Stortford I.C., 57, 59, and 61, South-st., Bishop's Stortford	Transfer of engagements to Cambridge and District Co-op. Society Ltd., 1158 R., Cambs.
Warwick	4116	Warwick I.C., Co-operative Stores, 23, Coten End, Warwick.	Amalgamated with Coventry Perseverance Co-operative Society Ltd., 957 R, Warwick.
Suffolk	4258	Tendring Hundred Farmers' C., 86, Princes-street, Ipswich.	Final winding-up.
Somerset	4411	Dulverton and District Agricultural C., Highercombe Dulverton, Somerset.	Registry Cancelled by request.

County.	No.	Name and Registered Office of Society.	Cause of Removal. Document Registered.
ENGLAND AND WALES— <i>con.</i>			
Buckingham ..	4503	Bletchley and District Mutual Coal, 4, Coal Wharf, Bletchley Station, Bletchley.	Amalgamated with Bletchley and District Co-op Society Ltd., 2395 R. Bucks.
Durham	4557	Durham County Alliance Workmen's Club and Institute, 20, Claypatch, Durham.	Final winding-up.
Buckingham ..	4596	Thornborough Agricultural C., Back-street, Thornborough, Buckingham.	Cancelled for Default.
Buckingham ..	4683	Stewkley Agricultural C., Residence of Mr. W. G. Capp, High-street, Stewkley (Leighton Buzzard).	Cancelled for Default.
Brecon.	4702	Bailth Upper District Agricultural C., Penrhiwmoch, Llana-fanfawr, Garth, Brecon.	Cancelled as ceased to exist.
Surrey	4784	Reigate Smallholders, Market Hall Buildings, Redhill.	Registry Cancelled by request.
Sussex	4810	Hastings Small Holdings and Allotments C., Eversley, Eversley-road, St. Leonard's-on-Sea, Hastings.	Registry Cancelled by request.
Glamorgan ..	4917	Invincible Insurance A, 15, Garden Park-row, Merthyr Tydvil.	Cancelled for Default.
Essex	4935	The Metropolitan Erectors and Contractors, 203, Barking-road, Victoria Docks, E.16.	Cancelled as ceased to exist.
London	4974	Agricultural Small Holdings Development A., 1 and 2, Rupert-court, Rupert-street, W.1.	Final winding-up.
Monmouth	5131	Llanarth Egg Depôt, Lansyderry House Horticultural College, Raglan, Newport, Mon.	Instrument of Dissolution, 18, £17, £19.
London	5229	British Poultry Federation, 2, Lindsey-st., Smithfield Market, E.C.1.	Final winding-up.
Carmarthen ..	5311	Mynydd Mawr I.C., Co-operative Buildings, Tumble, Llanon, Carmarthen.	Final winding-up.
Durham	5339	Broomside & District Workmen's Club and Institute, 7, Broomside-lane, Broomside, co. Durham.	Cancelled for Default.
London	5400	Bakers, Confectioners, and Allied Traders' Co-operation, 23 & 24, Colonial House, Tooley-street, Bermondsey, S.E.1.	Cancelled as ceased to exist.
London	5422	Motor Cab Co-operators, 3, 4, & 5, Regent Buildings, Brunswick-square, W.C.1.	Cancelled as ceased to exist.

County.	No.	Name and Registered Office of Society.	Cause of Removal. Document Registered.
		ENGLAND AND WALES— <i>con.</i>	
Sussex.....	5478	Steynning and District Unionist Club, Club Premises, Steynning, Sussex	Cancelled for Default.
Cambridge ...	5563	Wisbech St. Mary Smallholders. Coach & Horses Inn, Wisbech St. Mary, Wisbech.	Registry Cancelled by request.
Somerset	5573	Bath and District Farmers, Milk Depôt, Newark-street, Bath.	Final winding-up.
Essex	5587	Rayleigh and District Small Holders, The Hut, Cheapside, Rayleigh, Essex.	Registry Cancelled by request.
Suffolk	5630	Suffolk Dairy Farmers' C., The Dairy, Wickham Market.	Amalgamated with Eastern Counties Dairy Farmers' Co-operative Society Ltd., 3431 R, Essex. Instrument of Dissolution, 39, £11, £137
Nottingham ..	5649	Portland Freehold L., Morven House, Morven-av., Mansfield Woodhouse, Mansfield.	
Derby	5787	Middleton Agricultural C. Trading, The Bateman Arms Inn, Middleton-by-Youlgreave, Derbyshire.	Cancelled for Default.
Surrey	5812	Wimbledon. Merton, Morden, and District Smallholders' A., Myrtle Hall, 130, Hartfield-rd., Wimbledon, S.W.19.	Cancelled for Default.
London	5928	National Non-Sweated Supply Stores, Carlton House, 11D, Regent-street, S.W.1.	Cancelled for Default.
London	5945	Labour Newspapers, 92, Fleet-st., E.C.4.	Final winding-up.
London	5985	Anglo-Atlantic Mediterranean A., 20, Copthall-avenue, E.C.2.	Cancelled for Default.
London	5993	Gas Mantle A., c/o E. N. Benningfield, Friars House, 39/41, New Bond-street, E.C.2.	Cancelled for Default.
Lancs.	6006	Nelson Poultry Keepers and Gardeners' Supply A., 33, Regent-street, Nelson.	Instrument of Dissolution, 166, £26.
Derby	6068	Chesterfield United Club and Institute, Hambidge's Buildings, Hipper-st., Chesterfield.	Cancelled as, ceased to exist.
Berkshire	6088	Guild of Silence C., The Farm House, near Newbury.	Registry Cancelled by request.
Buckingham ..	6168	Iver Heath and District Agricultural, The Gardens, Hillbrook-place, Iver Heath, Uxbridge.	Transfer of engagement to Uxbridge and District Agricultural Co-operative Society Ltd., 6173 R, Middlesex. Registry cancelled by request.
Cumberland ..	6194	Keswick Egg Depôt, 16, St. John-street, Keswick.	

County.	No.	Name and Registered Office of Society.	Cause of Removal. Document Registered.
ENGLAND AND WALES— <i>con.</i>			
Northampton ..	6201	Raunds and District Egg-collecting Depôt, 18, North-street, Raunds, Wellingborough.	Registry cancelled by request.
Glamorgan	6333	Connelly Allotment Holders, Llwynon, Maudlam, Pyle, Bridgend.	Cancelled as ceased to exist.
Lancs.....	6350	Singleton Ploughing & Threshing, Singleton Grange, Poulton-le-Fylde, Preston.	Registry cancelled by request.
London	6438	St. Pancras Labour Bakery, 44, Ferdinand-street, N.W.1.	Registry cancelled by request.

II.—SCOTLAND.

AMALGAMATIONS.

County.	No.	Name and Registered Office of Society.	Cause of Removal. Document Registered.
Renfrew	191	Port Glasgow P.C. with Port Glasgow C. (243 R.).	31, Princes-st., Port Glasgow.
Forfar	235	Carnoustie E.C. with Carnoustie C.A. (42 R.).	Dundee - street, Carnoustie.

INSTRUMENT OF DISSOLUTION.

Aberdeen	549	Tarvas Agricultural C.....	Watchmakers' Village, Tarvas.
Midlothian....	123	Leavenseat I C.	Leavenseat, Fauld-house.
Aberdeen	433	Tyrie and District Agricultural C.	Newseat by Memsie.
Lanark	274	Millheugh Building	7, Braehead - avenue, Millheugh, Larkhall.
Nairn	377	Nairnshire Farmers' Syndicate ..	91, High-st., Nairn.

NOTICE OF WINDING-UP.

Forfar	471	Forfar C. Trading	6, Osnaburg - street, Forfar.
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REQUEST TO CANCEL REGISTRY.

Midlothian	201	Springfield C.....	Springfield, Polton.
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REGISTRY CANCELLED BY REGISTRAR.

Sutherland.. ..	475	Bettyhill Agricultural C.....	Clachan, Bettyhill, Sutherlandshire.
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County.	No.	Name and Registered Office of Society.	Cause of Removal. Document Registered.
III. — IRELAND.			
Donegal	605	Donegal C. Agricultural & Dairy	Return of final winding-up meeting.
Donegal	664	Gleneany C. Agricultural & Dairy	Return of final winding-up meeting.
Cavan	1111	Bogeskey C. Agricultural Implement.	Registry Cancelled by request.
Fermanagh ..	1004	Co. Fermanagh C. Steam Haulage and Threshing.	Registry Cancelled by request.
Down	607	Maghera and Bryansford C. Agricultural and Dairy.	Registry Cancelled by request.
Dublin	1269	Electric Lamp Users' C.	Registry Cancelled by request.
Tipperary	1311	Dunkerrin C. Agricultural	Registry Cancelled by request.
Wicklow	1003	Barndarrig C. Threshing	Registry Cancelled by request.
Tipperary	602	Greenane C. Agricultural and Dairy.	Registry Cancelled by request.
Cavan	1159	Ballymagauran C. Creamery	Registry Cancelled by request.

IV.—CENTRAL EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE.

(See Report 19, page 145.)

APPOINTMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE.

Sub-Committee No. 1: Chairman and the following eight members:—Mrs. Lawton, Miss Madams, Mr. J. F. Ashworth, Mr. W. H. Bryant, Mr. S. Fairbrother, Mr. J. Lucas, M.A., Rev. G. A. Ramsay, B.A., and Mr. A. Stoddart.

Sub-Committee No. 2: Chairman and the following seven members:—Mrs. Gasson, Mr. H. Archer, Mr. E. Booth, Mr. E. Couldwell, Mr. T. Hackett, Mr. A. H. Jones, and Mr. W. White.

Along with the Adviser of Studies (Professor Hall, M.A.) and the Secretary (Mr. C. E. Wood) in each case.

The following appointments of the committee were made:—

(a) Statistics and General Publications Committee: Messrs. W. R. Rae, J. Lucas, M.A., and the Rev. G. A. Ramsay, B.A.

(b) United Board Joint Committee for Promoting and Organising Educational Work in Relation to Co-operative Political Action: Mrs. Gasson, and Messrs. S. Fairbrother, T. Hackett, A. H. Jones, W. R. Rae, and A. Stoddart.

(c) National Co-operative Representation Committee: Mrs. Gasson.

(d) Secretaries' Examination Board: The Chairman, Adviser of Studies, and the Secretary, along with Messrs. G. Briggs and **J. Jarman** from the Co-operative Secretaries' Association.

(e) Management Examination Board: The Chairman, Adviser of Studies, and the Secretary, along with Messrs. D. Rowat, A. Ashton, W. M. Scott, and R. J. Wilson.

(f) Workers' Educational Association: The Secretary.

(g) University Joint Tutorial Classes Committees: Birmingham, Mr. T. Hackett; Nottingham, Mr. A. H. Jones; Liverpool, Mr. S. Fairbrother; Leeds, Mr. E. Booth: Manchester, Professor Hall, M.A.; Durham, Mr. A. Stoddart; Newcastle, Mr. W. R. Rae; London, Miss J. P. Madams; Oxford, Rev. G. A. Ramsay, B.A.; Bristol, Mr. W. H. Bryant.

(h) Ruskin College Executive and Council: The Secretary.

(i) National Co-operative Men's Guild: The Secretary, acting as Joint Secretary; Assistant Joint Secretary, Mr. A. Baxter.

EDUCATIONAL MATTERS.

(a) Statistics *re* Examinations.

Number of Entries for Examinations, excluding	Session 1917-18.	Session 1916-17.
Junior and Intermediate Examinations	751	929
Number of Passes:—		
With Distinction	155	131
Without Distinction	276	297
Number of Failures	320	501

(b) Certificates Issued.**JUNIOR CLASSES IN CO-OPERATION.**

Session.	Merit Certificate.	Attendance Certificate.
1917-18.....	2,840	3,760
1916-17.....	3,864	4,435

INTERMEDIATE CLASSES.**"Lives of Great Men and Women."**

Session.	Prize.	Pass.
1917-18.....	12	72
1916-17.....	30	157

ADULT CLASSES.

	1917-18.	1916-17.
Co-operation.....	83	130
Industrial History	28	47
Citizenship	15	12
Economics	8	16
Economics of Co-operation	9	11
Co-operative Book-keeping	175	153
Secretaries	6	4
Auditing	13	2

MANAGEMENT CERTIFICATES.

	1917-18.	1916-17.
Apprentices	57	47
Salesmen	1	3
General Managers	1	3
Honours	1	—

SUMMARY *re* CERTIFICATES ISSUED.

	Session 1917-18.	Session 1916-17.
Junior Certificates.....	6,600	8,299
Intermediate	84	187
Adult Classes in Co-operation & Kindred Subjects	337	375
Management	60	53
	<hr/> 7,081	<hr/> 8,914

(c) Grants and Prizes.**JUNIOR CLASSES.**

Local Examinations:—	Session 1917-18. £ s. d.	Session 1916-17. £ s. d.
Section I.....	23 0 0	25 0 0
Section II.	17 0 0	18 12 6
Section III. (Co-operative Union)	12 0 0	11 5 0
Re-examination of Best Papers	1 0 0	1 0 0
	<hr/> £53 0 0	<hr/> £55 17 6

INTERMEDIATE CLASSES.

	Session 1917-18.				Session 1916-17.		
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Grants	2	12	6	....	1	0	0
Re-examination	6	0	0	....	3	0	0
	£8 12 6			....	£4 0 0		

ADULT CLASSES.

	Session 1917-18.				Session 1916-17.		
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Grants	19	5	0	....	29	5	0
Prizes	4	2	6	....	6	17	0
	£23 7 6			....	£36 2 0		

(d) Co-operative Union Summer School Scholarships.

Scholarships, enabling adult students to attend one of the Summer Schools for Co-operators, held during 1918, were awarded to the following students:—

Subject.	Name.	Town.
Co-operation	(Miss) E. Wright	Derby.
„	(Miss) N. Hough	Liverpool.
„	(Mrs.) A. Capernhurst ..	Leicester.
„	J. Tomlinson	Derby.
„	D. Mason	Paisley.
Industrial History (Stage I.)	E. G. Saunders	Woolwich.
„ „ (Stage II.)	(Mrs.) E. F. L. Norman.	Woolwich.
*Economics	R. W. Rodgers	Plymouth.
Economics of Co-operation..	(Miss) F. Whittle	Liverpool.
Citizenship	W. G. Walters	Swansea.
Co-operative Book-keeping..	(Mrs.) E. A. G. Edge....	Stockport.

* Scholarship held over.

BLANDFORD SCHOLARSHIPS.

The two scholarships of the value of £10 each, awarded in open competition in the subject of Co-operation (Third Stage), were won by Mr. E. V. Davies (Gillingham) and Mr. T. McLeod (Liverpool). Both scholars devoted the scholarships to attendance at the summer schools arranged by the Committee.

REPORT FOR SESSION 1918-19.

(a) CLASSES FORMED.

	Session 1918-19.		Session 1917-18.		Increase.	Decrease.
Co-operation—Junior Grade Class..	454	..	350	..	104	.. —
Intermediate Grade Classes—						
(a) Biographical (“Lives of						
“Great Men and Women”)	16	..	8	..	8	.. —

	Session 1918-19.	Session 1917-18.	Increase.	Decrease.
(b) History and Principles of Co-operation ("The Story Re-told")	24 ..	30 ..	— ..	6
Co-operation—Adult	30 ..	26 ..	4 ..	—
Women's Course (Correspondence) ..	1 ..	0 ..	1 ..	—
Industrial History	16 ..	11 ..	5 ..	—
Citizenship	5 ..	7 ..	— ..	2
History, Theory, and Organisation of Education (Correspondence) ..	0 ..	0 ..	— ..	—
Economics	8 ..	3 ..	5 ..	—
Economics of Co-operation	2 ..	1 ..	1 ..	—
Co-operative Control of Raw Materials	1 ..	1 ..	— ..	—
Co-operation and Social Problems ..	1 ..	1 ..	— ..	—
Welfare of the Group	1 ..	1 ..	— ..	—
Co-operative Problems	0 ..	1 ..	— ..	1
Co-operative Book-keeping	41 ..	41 ..	— ..	—
Co-operative Management:—				
Apprentices and Junior Em- ployés	9 ..	12 ..	— ..	3
Salesmen	2 ..	1 ..	1 ..	—
General Managers (Corre- spondence)	1 ..	1 ..	— ..	—
Honours (Correspondence)....	1 ..	1 ..	— ..	—
Training Course for Secretaries (Correspondence).....	1 ..	1 ..	— ..	—
Training Course for Auditors (Correspondence).....	1 ..	1 ..	— ..	—
Industrial Revolution (Correspon- dence)	1 ..	0 ..	1 ..	—
Special Classes held at Holyoake House:—				
Public Speaking	1 ..	0 ..	1 ..	—
Local Government	1 ..	0 ..	1 ..	—
Statistical Methods.....	1 ..	0 ..	1 ..	—
Co-operative Survey	1 ..	0 ..	1 ..	—
	666	551	139	24
Total, Session 1917-18	666	Classes.		
Total, Session 1918-19	551	„		
Increase.....	115	Classes.		

(b) STUDENTS ENROLLED.

	Session 1918-19.	Session 1917-18.	Increase.	Decrease.
Co-operation—Junior Grade Classes	17145 ..	15037 ..	2108 ..	—
Intermediate Grade Classes—				
(a) Biographical ("Lives of Great Men and Women")	250 ..	142 ..	108 ..	—
(b) History and Principles of Co-operation ("The Story Re-told")	552 ..	1447 ..	— ..	895
Co-operation—Adult	480 ..	381 ..	99 ..	—
Women's Course (Correspondence)	1 ..	1 ..	— ..	—
Industrial History	228 ..	209 ..	19 ..	—
Citizenship	52 ..	97 ..	— ..	45
History, Theory, and Organisation of Education (Correspondence)	1 ..	0 ..	1 ..	—
Economics	121 ..	33 ..	88 ..	—
Economics of Co-operation	49 ..	13 ..	36 ..	—
Co-operative Control of Raw Materials	0 ..	5 ..	— ..	5
Co-operation and Social Problems	2 ..	1 ..	1 ..	—
Welfare of the Group	2 ..	5 ..	— ..	3
Co-operative Book-keeping	942 ..	994 ..	— ..	52
Co-operative Management:—				
Apprentice and Junior Em- ployees	222 ..	331 ..	— ..	109
Salesmen	6 ..	9 ..	— ..	3
General Managers	3 ..	4 ..	— ..	1
Honours	1 ..	2 ..	— ..	1
Training Course for Secretaries ..	18 ..	12 ..	6 ..	—
Training Course for Auditors	9 ..	7 ..	2 ..	—
Industrial Revolution (Correspon- dence)	1 ..	0 ..	1 ..	—
Classes for Women Co-operators ..	664 ..	1765 ..	— ..	1101
Special Classes held at Holyoake House;—				
Public Speaking	39 ..	0 ..	39 ..	—
Local Government	13 ..	0 ..	13 ..	—
Statistical Methods	20 ..	0 ..	20 ..	—
Co-operative Survey	18 ..	0 ..	18 ..	—
	20839	20495	2559	2215
Total Number of Students: Session 1918-19			20839	
Total Number of Students: Session 1917-18			20495	
Increase			344	

STUDENTS ENTERED FOR EXAMINATION.

	1919.	1918.	Increase.	Decrease.
Co-operation—Juniors: Sec. III. (Written) ..	1794 ..	2052 ..	—	258
" " Sec. II. (Local) ..	1675 ..	2190 ..	—	515
" " Sec. I. (Local) ..	2580 ..	3614 ..	—	1034
Intermediate Classes (Course A, 206; Course B, 226)	432 ..	1122 ..	—	690
Co-operation—Adults	180 ..	205 ..	—	25
Industrial History	91 ..	77 ..	14 ..	—
Citizenship	19 ..	33 ..	—	14
Economics	22 ..	13 ..	9 ..	—
Economics of Co-operation	3 ..	10 ..	—	7
Co-operative Problems	1 ..	— ..	1 ..	—
Welfare of the Group	4 ..	— ..	4 ..	—
History, Theory, and Organisation of Education	2 ..	— ..	2 ..	—
Industrial Revolution	7 ..	— ..	7 ..	—
Co-operative Book-keeping	419 ..	557 ..	—	138
Training Centres for Co-operative Employés— Apprentices and Junior Employés—				
Part I.	47 ..	44 ..	—	14
" II.	107 ..	124 ..		
Salesmen	12 ..	7 ..	5	—
General Managers	4 ..	3 ..		
Honours	1 ..	2 ..		
Training Course for Co-operative Secretaries	7 ..	6 ..	1 ..	—
Training Course for Auditors	13 ..	14 ..	—	1
The papers returned were as follows:—				
Co-operation—Adults	73 ..	127 ..	—	54
Industrial History	45 ..	42 ..	3 ..	—
Citizenship	15 ..	21 ..	—	6
Economics	7 ..	8 ..	—	1
Economics of Co-operation	3 ..	9 ..	—	6
Co-operative Problems	1 ..	— ..	1 ..	—
Welfare of the Group	4 ..	— ..	4 ..	—
History, Theory, and Organisation of Education	2 ..	— ..	2 ..	—
Industrial Revolution	4 ..	— ..	4 ..	—
Co-operative Book-keeping	287 ..	387 ..	—	100
Training Centres for Co-operative Employés— Apprentices and Junior Employés—				
Part II.	90 ..	86 ..	14 ..	—
Salesmen	10 ..	6 ..	4 ..	—
General Managers	4 ..	3 ..	1 ..	—
Honours	1 ..	2 ..	—	1
Training Centre for Secretaries	7 ..	6 ..	1 ..	—

	1919.	1918.	Increase.	Decrease.
Training Centre for Auditors	13 ..	14 ..	— ..	1
Junior Classes in Co-operation—				
Re-examination of Best Papers	71 ..	99 ..	— ..	28
Intermediate Classes—				
Re-examination of Best Paper	38 ..	24 ..	14 ..	—

Outline Scheme for the Establishment of a Co-operative College as a War or Peace Memorial.

For a full statement of the objects, organisation, and curriculum of the proposed college, reference should be made to the Co-operative Union pamphlet, "A Co-operative College."

BUILDING.

In order that the college work may be suitably carried on and in order to provide the movement with a permanent centre for summer schools and week-end schools, it is essential that a building for these purposes should be secured. An existing building might be secured, but as location and fitness for the purpose have to be considered, it would probably prove cheaper, under normal circumstances, and more satisfactory to have a building specially erected for the purpose. It should provide accommodation for a normal attendance of sixty students (with necessary accommodation for staff) and emergency arrangements for eighty to one hundred students. The usual class rooms and social rooms should be provided, also the requisite domestic conveniences and facilities for out-door recreations. The centre selected should preferably be in the Midlands—say Derbyshire—to give ease of access from all parts of the country and the railway facilities should be good.

COST.

It is difficult to say what would be the cost of erecting a special building at the present time; but there is no doubt that by the time a fund has been accumulated—say twelve months or two years—the cost of erecting a building will have fallen. It may be considered a reasonable estimate to set down £25,000 for building and furnishing the college. With the provision of a further sum of £25,000 for endowment purposes an adequate income for maintenance charges would also be provided.

STUDENTS.

It is, of course, recognised that a full complement of students for the college can not be immediately obtained; but there is nothing in the experience of the last few years to suggest that the students cannot be ultimately obtained, and there is much to encourage the view that they can be obtained. At Ruskin College there were 46 students (including 12 foreign students) in attendance at the outbreak of the war. The periods of attendance at the Co-operative College would usually be short ones—three months, six

months, or a year, and a number of students (as we already know) would come at their own expense for a term or a year. The bulk of the students would, however, come principally on scholarships; and when the college is commenced and an appeal made for students and scholarships there is no doubt an adequate number would be provided—the number of scholarships already granted for summer schools is some evidence of this. Already the Union grants two Research Scholarships, two Blandford Scholarships, and proposes to grant twelve technical scholarships. The Long Eaton Society is granting one Memorial Scholarship tenable at the Union's educational centre, and other societies may be expected to follow the example, especially when establishing memorials or celebrating jubilees. Some of the funds now utilised for granting scholarships at secondary schools would no doubt be **diverted** to assisting students at the Co-operative College when opportunities for securing education in a co-operative atmosphere are provided.

CURRICULUM.

A suggested curriculum was included in the last edition of the College pamphlet, and is repeated here for information :—

English.

Industrial and Constitutional History (including History of Reform Movements).

Sociology.

Citizenship and Political Science.

History and Principles of Co-operation.

Economics of Co-operation.

Co-operation Abroad.

Co-operative Statistics and Statistical Methods (including Research).

Co-operative Banking and Finance.

Economics: covering Economic Theory; Wages; Hours of Labour; Money; Prices and Banking; Foreign Trade and Foreign Exchanges: Problems of Industry and Society.

The Organisation of Industry and Commerce.

Co-operative Salesmanship and Management.

Secretarial Practice (including Modern Business Methods and Office Organisation).

Co-operative Law (Industrial and Provident Societies Act).

General Commercial Law (Traders' Law).

Trade-unionism.

Propaganda and Methods of Organising.

Special subjects for Women (such as Women's place in Society, in Industry, and in the Co-operative Movement).

The Art of Teaching.

Public Speaking (in connection with Lectures on Propaganda).

Co-operative Politics and Political Organisation.

The subjects would, of course, be added to and varied as experience suggests improvements.

STEPS TO BE TAKEN.

(a) *Finance*.—The first step to be taken is undoubtedly the opening of a fund, and the making of a special appeal for subscriptions thereto. Supporters of the college have already asked what they can do in the way of getting their societies to subscribe to the college; and leaders of several societies are prepared to take immediate action when the Union opens a fund. No better basis for an appeal could be adopted than that of a war memorial which would spread co-operative opinion and assist in preventing wars in the future. A great national memorial would strike the imagination and local societies besides subscribing to the national fund might wish to identify a local memorial by furnishing rooms or founding scholarships.

The federal institutions (including the Union and the Wholesale Societies) might be expected to make donations towards the £50,000 fund as well as local societies, guilds, and individuals. The Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society and the United Co-operative Baking Society are about to celebrate their jubilee, and there could be no more appropriate time for making an appeal to them. Besides the usual appeal by circular, arrangements might be made for deputations or speakers to attend committee and members' meetings, as well as conferences, to place the case for the college before them.

(b) *Students and Organisation*.—It is already apparent that it will be necessary next winter to begin work at Holyoake House on college lines, the students living in rooms or hostels in Manchester. At least half a dozen, but more probably a dozen, students will be attending—on research and other scholarships—and this number can be increased by making an effort. If this work is fostered at Holyoake House, there will already be a nucleus of students and organisation, as well as a "connection" before the college building is ready for occupation.

GENERAL NOTES.

The college would be open to both men and women, a point that would be remembered in the construction and arrangements of the college.

The correspondence tuition now provided by the Union would be conducted from the college.

Arrangements could be made whereby students could attend the college for a month or even a shorter period if they could not attend for a full term.

Arrangements could also be made to receive foreign students, of whom a number could be expected; inquiries as to the possibilities of our training such students having already been received.

The college would not only be available for summer school purposes, but also for special schools such as those already in prospect, e.g., a special week's school for educational secretaries and a special week's school for political organisers.

NATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE MEN'S GUILD.

EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT, 1918.

CENTRAL COUNCIL.

President : W. R. RAE (Chairman, Central Education Committee).

Chairman : W. H. WATKINS (Plymouth).

F. A. GIBBINS (Brighton), A. HOLLANDS (Willesden), F. Lonsdale (Kinning Park),
A. PARK (Failsworth), J. PENNY (Sheffield), C. H. RUSSELL (Birkenhead),
H. SKEELS (Walsall), A. J. TAPPING (Derby), R. WEARE (Birkenhead),
F. WHITTAKER (Bolton), J. T. WOOD (Bradford).

Joint { W. CHAS. POTTER, 61, Ingleby Road, Ilford, London, E.

Secretaries : { C. E. WOOD, Holyoake House, Hanover Street, Manchester.

CONSTITUTION OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

The election for members of the Central Council resulted in the re-election of the retiring officers, viz., Messrs. W. H. Watkins, C. H. Russell, A. J. Tapping, and C. H. Houseman. Mr. Houseman, however, was called to the Colours before he took his seat on the new council, and in these circumstances, Mr. F. Lonsdale (Kinning Park), who obtained the next highest number of votes, was declared elected.

GENERAL PROGRESS.

It is with great joy that we are writing this report in times that herald the approach of peace. For the last four years we have had to deplore the continuance of the war, and, apart from the terrible tragedy of the war itself, the Men's Guild was peculiarly affected, inasmuch as a large proportion of its membership was, sooner or later, called to the Colours, and those that remained were largely engaged in war work. But now that officials and members of our branches are being released from these duties there are abundant signs that the Guild is to take a great plunge forward with resultatory increase in numbers and influence. The present membership is 3,909 in 126 branches. This compares with 106 branches and 3,580 members last year. Even in war time progress of the Guild has been steady, but as a portent of the future we would point out that from 1st January, 1919, to 31st March, 1919, there were formed 11 new branches with a membership of 254. We are, therefore, very hopeful that it will be possible to announce a much greater increase in the next annual report.

DISTRICT COUNCILS.

A new District Council—Bolton—has been formed during the past year, and our Guild members here are to be congratulated upon their energy and enthusiasm. This last appointed council has lost no time in interviewing local

management and education committees with the idea of obtaining support for the formation of Men's Guild branches in connection with the societies. As co-operative societies are thickly dotted over this area, we have no doubt the Bolton District Council will quickly have a goodly number of branches affiliated to it. Work in the remaining district councils has been carried on, very often in the face of great difficulties.

London.—This council was perhaps the last to feel the full effects of the war, and 1918 saw the practical suspension of its work. With the coming of the Armistice a new life has been given to it, and at its February meeting there was a good attendance of members, all of whom evinced a determination to put the London District Council once again upon a sure and solid foundation for the great work which awaits co-operation in London.

Manchester.—In this district also activities have been practically suspended, but a new start is in process of being made. A lusty offshoot of the Manchester District Council—the Bolton District Council, whose activities are described above—has assumed full maturity and promises to eclipse its parent body unless Manchester bestirs itself.

Mersey District.—Our friends on the Mersey have put in a year of solid, useful work. With an eye to the coming of peace and the return of the men they have kept the old branches going and formed new ones in connection with other societies. Nearly every society in the Mersey area has now one or more branches of the Men's Guild all ready for the new activities—co-operative, educational, and political.

Midland District.—This district has been kept particularly alive during the year, and the members deserve all credit for their work. The branches in and around Birmingham and Coventry have been well to the fore. The president of one of the branches in the Birmingham district—Mr. T. Hackett—ran as a co-operative candidate at the last general Parliamentary election, and, although not successful, undoubtedly established the fact that co-operation is a real live force in Birmingham and district.

Scottish District.—Scotland has returned to the task of amending the constitution of the national body. As will be seen from the report of the last annual meeting, their proposals did not find favour for the time being. The Scottish District Council did not agree that the time was inopportune to change the rules, and felt this so strongly that there was some danger of a separate national body being inaugurated for Scotland. The matter was referred to the Central Education Committee of the Co-operative Union, who appointed their chairman, Mr. W. R. Rae, who is also president of the Guild, and their secretary, Mr. C. E. Wood (Guild joint secretary), to meet the Scottish District Council on the matter. The Central Council sent the chairman (Mr. W. H. Watkins) and the joint secretary (Mr. W. Chas. Potter) to the conference. The matter was very fully discussed at the conference and, as a result, the proposals of the Scottish District Council, with slight modifications, as suggested by the Central Education Committee, are to be submitted to the next annual meeting of the Guild. It is not for us to comment upon

the matter at this stage, except to express the hope that national unity at this very critical period in the history of the co-operative movement will be preserved.

The Scottish District Council has again been successful in starting new branches and keeping alive the old ones. Indeed, the number of branches affiliated to this council places it, numerically, well in front of other district councils.

Yorkshire District.—Yorkshire has plodded along solidly and determinedly. Undeterred by the calls of the war upon its membership, it has held most successful meetings and conferences. Many of the affiliated branches have increased largely in membership and new branches have been formed as a result of the action of the district council. Perhaps the most optimistic reports regarding future prospects and developments have been received from branches affiliated to the Yorkshire District Council.

WORK IN THE BRANCHES.

The branch reports form much more cheerful reading this year than last. Whilst many branches have not yet felt the effect of the cessation of hostilities and again report "still holding on," many of them intimate increased membership, work, and enthusiasm. We cannot, of course, particularise in respect to all, but a few may be selected as examples. Kettering Branch is justly proud and jubilant over the share its members took in the candidature of Mr. Waterson, the only successful co-operative candidate for the position of member of Parliament. Guild members were untiring in their efforts as speakers, canvassers, and helpers, and, indeed, the National Guild, as a whole, has every reason to be proud of the part it played in the general election. Wherever there was a contest the Men's Guild were in the thickest of the fight. Splendid reports are to hand of the work done by the Guild branches in all parts of the country.

The Huddersfield Branch, wisely looking ahead, have been busy devising schemes for the employment of the leisure the workers will have when a 44 hours week is adopted. Brightside and Carbrook Branch report an increase of 48 members in three months. Leeds have now eleven branches of the Men's Guild in connection with their huge society. Ecclesall Branch have had a series of addresses by the departmental managers, much to the enlightenment of the members as to the many difficulties which pursue these important officials. Harborne Branch sells four dozen copies of the *Co-operative News* every week. Wellingborough Branch is as optimistic and enthusiastic as its neighbour at Kettering. Very many branches report meetings, socials, and whist drives held in conjunction with the women's guilds. It can truly be said, from a reading of the branch reports, that the immediate future is full of hope.

PUBLICATIONS.

No new pamphlets have been issued this year owing to the difficulties of supplies and printing. Several, however, are in hand and will be published

as circumstances permit. Attention, however, is drawn to the list of pamphlets available printed at the end of this report. Branches will find them eminently suitable for present work and future requirements.

It has not been found possible to issue the "Monthly Letters" regularly. Several, however, have been issued and have been much appreciated by the branches. The regular issue of these helpful letters will be resumed immediately.

THE CO-OPERATIVE PRESS.

We again express our best thanks to the *Co-operative News*, the *Scottish Co-operator*, and the *Co-operative Educator* for the publication of the monthly and other notes on guild work, and also to editors of the local *Wheatsheafs* and magazines for mention of branch engagements and reports.

An appeal is made to all branches to make greater use of their local *Wheatsheaf* in reporting Guild meetings, and secretaries are asked to send a copy of each issue containing such reports to the Central Office of the Men's Guild, Holyoake House, Manchester.

FINANCE.

Attention is drawn to the financial statement issued with this report. The Central Council is cognisant of the circumstances which have led to several branches falling into arrears in the payment of affiliation fees. It is possible that branches will now be able to pull up in this respect.

Special mention must be made of the assistance rendered to the Guild by the continuation of the Co-operative Wholesale Society's grant; also of the financial aid given by the Co-operative Union Limited. Without such assistance, in these days of increased railway fares and generally advanced prices, organising work in particular would be rendered difficult if not impossible.

CONCLUSION.

Last year, as we penned the Seventh Annual Report, the darkest hour of the war was upon us, but we then ventured to hope that the future was with co-operation and that the National Men's Guild would continue to play its part. We are still of the same opinion, but, although the war is over, the need for vigilance on the part of co-operators is as great as ever. Signs are not wanting that our people are going to be content with—or forced willy nilly—to accept the old pre-war conditions. All those bright visions of the war that was to end war—the birth of a new spirit of nobleness and unselfishness amongst men—seem to be rapidly passing away, and at times the co-operative commonwealth, built on brotherhood and devotion to the common weal, seems to be farther off than ever. But this need not be. If co-operators will only rise up and declare from the housetops and the street corners the faith that is in them we are convinced that the working people as a whole will turn to co-operation as to a new gospel. Let us get true co-operators returned to Parliament, to our local government bodies, to positions of leadership in the co-operative movement itself, and assist these representatives to put into

practice our aims and ideals. The Co-operative Commonwealth will then become an immediate possibility. No profiteering; indeed, *no profits*: Production for use and beauty: Labour for the common good and not for private gain: No slums; no sweating; no poverty; these are our watchwords.

Members of the Men's Guild, you *know* the importance of these things. Use your knowledge, for there never was a time when *action* was more needed. Let not the co-operative movement look to us in vain for the service we are able to render and were called by others to render.

W. H. WATKINS, Chairman.

W. CHAS. POTTER, } Joint
C. E. WOOD, } Secretaries.

* CASH STATEMENT, 1918.

Receipts.		£	s.	d.	Payments.		£	s.	d.
To Subscriptions, Guild Branches..		23	12	10	By Meetings and Conferences—				
„ Donations		50	0	0	Travelling		76	16	0
„ Sales—Badges		5	19	11	Expenses		27	5	0
„ Deficit (Met by Co-operative Union Limited)		61	7	1	„ Grants to Districts		1	11	6
					„ Printing		22	19	6
					„ Postages		12	7	10
		£140	19	10			£140	19	10

* This Cash Account will be audited along with the other accounts of the Co-operative Union, by Mr. T. Wood, Public Auditor.

V.—SUMMARISED REPORT OF THE WOMEN'S CO-OPERATIVE GUILDS.

I.—ENGLAND.

SUMMARISED REPORT, MARCH, 1918—MARCH, 1919.

(See Report 54, page 240.)

Central Committee.

Mrs. Hood (president), Southern Section.	Mrs. Barton, Yorkshire Section.
„ Williams (vice-president), Western Section.	„ Booth, Midland Section.
„ Ferguson (treasurer), Northern Section.	„ Hutchings, South-Western Section.
	„ Lawton, Lancashire Section.

General Secretary: Miss Llewelyn Davies, 28, Church Row, Hampstead,
London, N.W. 3.

(Returns of membership, representation, &c., are not yet available for 1919, and are taken from the returns for May, 1918.)

Notwithstanding the difficulties due to war conditions, a satisfactory increase in membership was recorded in May, 1918, the number of branches being 666, an increase of 36, and the total number of members being 28,020, an increase of 960. About 40 of the 666 branches were unable to hold meetings owing to their rooms being occupied by the military authorities or to their members being at work. As soon as normal conditions are restored special attention will be given to restarting these branches, several of which are already again holding their meetings.

Since May, 1918, 60 new branches have been formed, a record number.

THE GUILD AND THE CO-OPERATIVE UNION.

In July, 1918, a conference was held between representatives of the United Board and the Central Committee, at which the following resolution was unanimously passed :—

1. That we recommend the Central Board to renew the grant to the Women's Guild, same to be given on the work done by the guild during the year previous to their report being submitted to Congress. If at any time the grant is withheld, the Central Board to give reasons for doing so.
2. That, with the object of closer working between the Union and the Women's Guild, we recommend that the United Board and the Guild Central Council meet together at least once each year to discuss the possibility of co-operating in work in which both organisations are interested.

This was confirmed by the Central Board at its meeting in September. The Central Committee desires to express its appreciation of the result of this conference, resulting in the renewal of the grant. The Central Committee welcomed heartily the invitation of the United Board to confer with them in November, and interesting and useful discussions took place on the following subjects :—

- (a) Methods of Joint Propaganda.
- (b) Reciprocal Representation at Congresses and Conferences.
- (c) Representation of Women on Deputations and National Committees.
- (d) Joint Campaign of Co-operators and Trade-unionists.

A conference was also held with the Central Education Committee in February, 1919, at which the position with regard to the women's classes was considered. The following resolution, passed by the combined meeting of all the councils, explains the position of the guild :—

That, in view of the large amount of organising work necessary in the sections and districts, and of the greatly developing work which lies before the guild, both co-operatively and nationally, this meeting of the Central Committee and Sectional Councils recommends that the officials of the guild, *i.e.*, Central Committee and Council members and district secretaries, should refrain from taking any long series of classes during their term of office. Further, if the Central Education Committee should desire the occasional help of guild officials as lecturers at their schools, this meeting desires to place no obstacle in the way of such work.

The Central Education Committee expressed their view in the following resolution :—

This committee welcomes the offer of assistance from the Women's Guild in the organisation of two-days and other schools, and, in regard to the classes for women, is of the opinion that no change of policy with respect to the appointment of teachers is desirable. After the discussion it was thought that, with goodwill on both sides, and

if the position the guild was placed in was understood, the work of the two bodies should progress harmoniously.

The conference concluded with consideration of the Ministry of Health Bill. The General Secretary asked that the principles of the ultimate dissociation from the Poor Law and the adequate representation of women in the new Ministry should receive attention. It was agreed that a syllabus should be prepared to be considered at a further meeting.

CO-OPERATIVE POLITICAL ACTION.

The principal work of the guild during the year has been to stimulate its members to active work in bringing the newly enfranchised women into the Co-operative Party. With this object about 40 schools were held, covering every district, and a detailed syllabus of four lectures was issued both to the lecturers at the schools and to the speakers who undertook the subject. The numbers invited to the schools were limited, but about 1,000 women altogether attended them. A paper, "A Woman Voter makes up Her Mind," was widely sold.

At the Guild Annual Congress the following resolution was passed :—

That this Congress hails the enfranchisement of women with enthusiasm, and calls on all co-operative women to join the Co-operative Political Party, which stands for the control of industry by the people for the people, and for the abolition of profit-making and profiteering; and, in order to secure the return at the next general election of a People's Government, pledged to place life before wealth and the common good before vested interests, this Congress urges local co-operative parties to join hands with Labour forces and stand aside from any party whose programme does not include the replacement of capitalism by the democratic control of industry, and which does not publicly state the sources from which its funds are derived.

The guild is represented on the Central Parliamentary Representation Committee by its president (Mrs. Hood), but it has no representative on the Executive Committee, on which there is only one woman. This situation compares unfavourably with the representation of women on the Labour Party Executive. A large number of guild members are on their local Parliamentary Representation Councils. Before the general election the list of guild speakers on political action was sent to the Co-operative Parliamentary Representation Committee, and they were placed in communication with the agents of the ten co-operative candidates. An appeal for workers for these candidates was also made at the autumn sectional conferences. Members of the Central Committee and Councils spoke at about 40 meetings on behalf of co-operative candidates, and many worked and spoke also for Labour candidates who supported co-operation.

A large amount of work in connection with the County and Urban District Council elections is being done by guild branches, and suggestions for a special

leaflet for women on municipal questions have been sent to the Co-operative Parliamentary Representation Committee. It is hoped that joint work in promoting the organisation of women co-operative voters will be arranged with the Central Parliamentary Representation Committee through conferences addressed by the woman organiser.

The Guild desires to express its thanks to the societies that proposed at the Liverpool Congress the inclusion of "The National Care of Maternity" in the co-operative political programme. The other point added at the same time, namely, "The League of Nations," has been warmly advocated by the guild for several years, and the following resolution in favour of it was passed at the Guild Annual Congress:—

That this Congress heartily supports the proposal for a League of Nations, and urges that secret diplomacy should be destroyed and foreign policy controlled by Parliament and the people, so that the League of Nations may be a league of the peoples and not merely of the Governments.

Arrangements are being made to supply guild members with information on current political questions, in addition to those immediately affecting co-operation, by the issue of leaflets. The first of these, on "Ireland," has been published.

WOMEN'S POLITICAL QUESTIONS.

The guild has taken action in regard to two questions of special importance to women. Strong opposition has been given to the introduction of military training in schools, a resolution against it being passed at the Annual Congress.

Energetic protests have been made against D.O.R.A. Regulation 40D. Many branches sent resolutions to the M.P.'s on both these questions.

The guild has also supported—

- (1) The admission of women to Parliament.
- (2) Prison reform and the appointment of women police.
- (3) The nine points of the Temperance Council of Christian Churches.

In response to requests from branches as to the proposals *re* Divorce Law Reform, made early in 1918 by M.P.'s and others, a leaflet explaining the proposals was issued.

THE CAPITALIST MENACE AND CO-OPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT.

The guild from the first has shown its desire to take part in a great joint campaign of co-operators and trade-unionists in support of large co-operative developments, both national and international, in order to meet the capitalist menace. The following resolution was passed unanimously at the autumn sectional conferences:—

This conference calls attention to the alarming extent to which during the war capitalism has strengthened its position by creating powerful combines, largely increasing its financial reserves, and securing greater influence over the Government both in legislation and administration. It, therefore, urges that the co-operative

movement should take immediate steps to combat this menace by a great extension of co-operation to cover every shopping area throughout the country, and that a joint campaign with trade-unionists should be organised to secure the capital and custom of all the workers' organisations.

Deputations from the Lancashire and Yorkshire, Northern, and Midland Sectional Councils have waited on the sectional boards in their respective sections to put before them the urgency of the question from the women's point of view. Women's support is essential in order to secure both the capital and the trade necessary for co-operation to capture the trade of the country.

In London, the metropolitan districts invited the guild to join with them and the London Trades Council in arranging the large joint conference on 28th January, and the General Secretary was one of the speakers. At the similar conference to be held in Manchester, Mrs. Blair (secretary, Lancashire Section, Women's Co-operative Guild) is to speak. At the National Conference held on 6th March, in the Memorial Hall, London, no woman was included amongst the official speakers, but after a protest was sent to the joint council it was kindly arranged that Mrs. Hood, Mrs. Barton, and the General Secretary should support the three resolutions. The guild presented eight large mottoes for use at this and other conferences, which were hung in the hall. The guild also had a literature stall at the hall.

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION.

The Central Committee wrote to the International Co-operative Alliance to ask them to bring forward the question of international co-operative trade at the inter-allied conference in Paris. In connection with the development of international co-operative trade the following resolution was passed at the Annual Congress, after informing speeches on behalf of Russian co-operators by Madame Polovtsev and Mr. Bubnoff :—

That this Congress recognises that the Russian nation is building up a new industrial system in which the co-operative movement is playing a large part. It, therefore, calls on our co-operative movement, in the interests of international co-operation, to take immediate steps to establish trade directly with the Russian people and so prevent foreign capital from re-establishing its power and destroying the ideal, now being worked out in Russia, of industry controlled by the people for the people. This Congress therefore urges the Co-operative Wholesale Society to send a deputation to Russia to establish direct business relations between the co-operative societies and forces of Russia and Great Britain and Ireland.

THE NATIONAL CARE OF MATERNITY.

In the summer the long delayed Maternity and Infant Welfare Act was at last passed. Its progress in Parliament was carefully watched and

information was supplied to M.P.'s. This Act greatly extended the powers of local authorities and the work for which the Government grant is available. It is now possible for local authorities to institute a midwifery service, maternity homes; dinners for expectant mothers, and services of home helps. It also made it compulsory on authorities providing maternity and infant welfare services to form a maternity committee, on which there must be two women. The Local Government Board, in their circular, recommended that representatives of working women's organisations, like the guild, should be placed on these committees. Guild branches have been urged to approach their municipal councils and ask for representation on the maternity committees, and a large number have been successful in obtaining it. Information and advice has been sent to a number of these representatives.

The guild has persistently pressed for municipal services of midwives and home helps. A memorandum on the best method of organising a midwifery service has been published and circulated amongst a number of organisations and medical officers of health. A memorandum on home helps is just being issued.

The formation of a Ministry of Health closely touches the development of the national care of maternity, and the guild is strongly urging that there should be provision made for the adequate representation of women in the Ministry. Another aspect of provision for motherhood is the proposal put forward for family endowment, by which an allowance for the mother and each child, analogous to the military separation allowances, would be made. This subject is now being discussed throughout the guild.

THE SURVEY REPORT.

A letter was sent to societies explaining the views of the guild with regard to (1) auxiliary bodies, (2) constitution of the Co-operative Union Executive and Central Education Committee, and (3) representation of women.

After the agreement with the Central Board as regards the grant the guild considered that the situation was changed and desired to see the Survey Report proposals brought into accordance with the agreement. They, therefore, sent in a memorandum to the Constitution Sub-committee, suggesting an alternative scheme to that of the Survey Committee and a conference on the matter, but neither proposal was accepted by the sub-committee. The question of further action is under consideration.

TWO-DAYS SCHOOLS.

A large number of one and two days schools have been held during the year. As a rule these are organised by the district committee, but individual branches or groups of branches also organised them from time to time. The subjects taken have included most of the special subjects of the year.

ALL COUNCILS CONFERENCE.

A meeting of all the sectional councils was held at Derby on 13th and 14th February. The subjects discussed were: "The Co-operative Development

Campaign," "The Guild and Central Education Committee," "The Formation of Joint Guild Committees," "The Starting of New Branches," "The Subscription to the Central Fund," "Co-operative Political Action: National and Municipal," "The Survey Report." Very valuable discussions took place and a resolution protesting against conscription was passed.

REPRESENTATION OF WOMEN IN THE MOVEMENT.

Central Board, two women; Central Education Committee, three women; Educational Committees' Associations, women sit on all the executives; Central Parliamentary Representation Council, three women (Executive, one); Sectional Propaganda Committees, two women; Convalescent Fund Committee, three women; District Associations, ten women. Management Committees, 172 women in 110 societies. Educational Committees, 539 women in 183 societies.

REPRESENTATION OF GUILDSWOMEN ON PUBLIC BODIES AND COMMITTEES IN MAY, 1918.

The representation of women on various public committees in May, 1918, was as follows:—

One guildswoman, Mrs. Cottrell, is on a city council.

One guildswoman, Mrs. Cottrell, is on the Consumers' Council.

Two hundred and fifty-nine guildswomen sit on committees connected with some form of maternity work.

One hundred and thirty-nine guildswomen sit on 90 insurance committees.

Twenty-four guildswomen sit on higher education committees in 24 towns.

Sixty-two guildswomen are Poor Law Guardians.

Twenty-four guildswomen are assessors to munitions tribunals.

Two hundred and four guildswomen sit on 142 naval and military pension committees, including those in London boroughs.

Two hundred and thirty guildswomen sit on food control committees in 210 towns.

Two guildswomen are on district agricultural wages boards.

Guildswomen also sit on twelve trades councils or Labour representation committees, ten venereal diseases committees, about twenty food, vigilance, or local workers' war emergency committees, fifteen labour advisory committees, five war agricultural committees, and sixteen communal kitchens committees.

Mrs. Barton, Mrs. F. Smith, and Mrs. Moore are on the Housing and Industrial Committees of the Reconstruction Ministry, Miss Harris is on the Women's Advisory Council, and Mrs. Hood and Mrs. Layton on sub-committees dealing with subsidiary health services.

STANDING JOINT COMMITTEE OF INDUSTRIAL WOMEN'S ORGANISATIONS.

During the year the scope of this committee has been enlarged. The bodies now represented on it are the Women's Trade Union League, National Federation of Women Workers, Women's Co-operative Guild, Railway

Women's Guild, and Labour Party. Other organisations eligible to join it are the Parliamentary Committee Trades Union Congress, the Co-operative Union, and trade union and Labour organisations containing a substantial number of women workers. All representatives must be women.

The Labour Party Executive has asked the members of the Standing Joint Committee to act as an advisory committee on women's questions.

This body is now accepted by Government Departments and the public as the official representative of industrial women's views on national questions. It is represented on—

The Consumers' Council, Ministry of Food.

National Council for Combating Venereal Diseases.

Child Welfare Council.

Women's Advisory Council, Ministry of Reconstruction.

The Standing Joint Committee has obtained representation of working women on the following local committees :—

Naval and Military Pensions Committees.

Food Control Committees.

Maternity Committees.

Advisory Committees of Employment Exchanges.

Agricultural Wages Boards.

War Agricultural Committees.

Insurance Committees.

Government documents recommending local bodies to apply to the Standing Joint Committee for representatives are the circulars issued to Local Pensions Committees, to Advisory Committees on Women's War Employment, to Women's War Agricultural Committees, by the Local Government Board on Maternity Committees (1916) and Maternity and Child Welfare Act (1918), and by the Food Ministry (1918) on Food Control Committees.

The Standing Joint Committee sent a statement of women's views on the proposed League of Nations International Labour Commission to the Berne International Conference which included the following paragraph :—

"The people of all countries must now realise the peril in which they are placed by the growth of capitalistic combinations which menace the peace between nations and the liberty of all the workers. It is of the first importance that essential food supplies and raw materials throughout the world should be secured for all peoples, and with this object in view it is desirable that a democratically constituted League of Nations should make it one of its first objects to maintain international control of such important commodities as wheat and wool. In doing this the present inter-allied control might be developed into a great international organisation, whose task would be to maintain equality of supply and a reasonable basis of cost. In addition to this, however, steps should be taken by the united forces of the workers of all countries to develop and extend the people's co-operative movement, in order that profit making may be abolished and the workers' economic power to

undermine and resist capitalism be increased through co-operative banking and trade. The Labour charter to be agreed upon by the conference should include provisions upon the following lines :—

1. The co-operative movement should be recognised in national and international administration as an important part of the economic structure.
2. That international agreements should be made to safeguard the co-operative movement, which is a democratic and non-profit-making organisation of consumers in every nation, and recognition should be given to the fact that its progress would be hindered by tariffs and any other forms of protection which would restrict plentiful supplies at low prices.
3. That, in the event of any schemes of rationing being set up by the League of Nations, the co-operative movement should be accepted as the most appropriate instrument for their administration."

HOUSING.

The guild has been represented at several conferences on Housing, and Mrs. Barton took an active part in the work of the Reconstruction Ministry's Women's Committee on Housing, which dealt with the kind of houses needed. The question has been one of the "special subjects" of the year, and has been dealt with chiefly from the point of view of the necessity for planning houses to meet the needs and lessen the work of the mother.

THE MRS. JONES' GUILD CONVALESCENT FUND.

The receipts in 1918 were £230. 13s. 5d., and the expenditure £204. 11s. 3d. The number of convalescents sent away was 92, an increase of 15 on the preceding year.

THE GUILD ANNUAL CONGRESS.

The Guild Annual Congress was held at Bradford, and was attended by 817 delegates, representing 429 branches. Besides the resolutions already given resolutions were passed on the following subjects :—Allowances to Mothers of Soldiers and Sailors, Democracy in Co-operative Government, The Guild and the Co-operative Union Grant, A National Milk Supply, A National Midwifery Service, Voluntary Work, Co-operative Capital, Pensions for Widows and Family Endowment, Use of Foodstuffs in Alcohol, Equal Pay for Men and Women Teachers, Education, Maternity, and Child Welfare Bill.

FUNDS.

The guild desires to express its thanks to the Central Board for the grant of £400, and to the societies and directors of the Co-operative Wholesale Society for the grant of £300. The renewed grant from the Co-operative Union has enabled much needed help to be given towards the organising work of the sectional councils and district committees, and special grants of over £250 have been made to them. Further work in this direction is contemplated which will absorb another £100.

SUMMARISED STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS, 1ST JANUARY TO 31ST DECEMBER, 1918.

RECEIPTS.

	£	s.	d.
To Balance in hand 1st January, 1918.....	62	10	5
„ Subscriptions to Central Fund.....	455	1	8
„ Self-government Fund.....	4	2	6
„ Donation from Co-operative Wholesale Society.....	300	0	0
„ Donations from Co-operative Union.....	400	0	0
„ Congress Funds Donation.....	6	0	0
„ Annual Congress Fund repaid.....	44	9	8
„ Balance from Torquay Congress.....	42	10	7
„ Sale of Papers.....	£76	14	7½
„ „ Badges.....	18	12	3½
„ „ Business Books.....	21	6	2½
„ „ Cards of Membership.....	7	14	10
„ £300 Fund.....	124	7	11½
„ All-Councils Meeting.....	7	7	0
„ Political Fund.....	43	1	4
„ Bank Interest—Dividend.....	87	8	7
„ Insurance Rebate.....	11	10	10
„ Sundries.....	0	12	11
„ Error in 1917 Balance.....	4	8	9
	0	10	0
	£1594	2	2½

EXPENDITURE.

	£	s.	d.
By Postage, Telegrams, &c.....	74	2	8
„ Stationery.....	44	5	4
„ Printing.....	83	15	8
„ Central Committee—Fares and Postage.....	100	13	6½
„ Speakers' Expenses.....	10	11	3½
„ Representatives' Expenses.....	37	9	1
„ Papers.....	59	17	2½
„ Badge.....	12	10	0
„ Grants to Sections—Midland.....	£36	10	0
„ „ „ Northern.....	20	0	0
„ „ „ Lancashire.....	27	10	0
„ „ „ Yorkshire.....	22	10	0
„ „ „ Southern.....	38	0	0
„ „ „ South-Western.....	18	12	6
„ „ „ Western.....	19	2	6
„ Honorariums to Sectional Secretaries.....	182	5	0
„ Sectional Conference—Northern.....	£2	2	6
„ „ „ Southern.....	0	17	1
„ „ „ South-Western.....	3	10	10
„ „ „ Yorkshire.....	2	8	2
„ Grants to Districts—Midland.....	£29	0	0
„ „ „ Northern.....	18	0	0
„ „ „ Lancashire.....	23	0	0
„ „ „ Yorkshire.....	16	10	0
„ „ „ Southern.....	52	0	6
„ „ „ South-Western.....	10	0	0
„ „ „ Western.....	9	0	0
„ Self-government Fund—Grants to Branches.....	157	10	6
„ All-Councils Meeting.....	23	19	6
„ Political Fund Expenses—Lecturers.....	66	7	3
„ „ „ District Representative.....	£35	5	6½
„ „ „ Printing and Paper.....	18	0	9
„ „ „ „.....	29	5	3
„ National Health Insurance.....	82	11	6½
„ Two-Days School.....	2	11	4
„ Subscriptions to Health Council.....	7	6	5½
„ „ „ Health Research Scheme.....	£1	1	0
„ „ „ Labour Conference.....	1	5	0
„ „ „ International Co-operative Alliance.....	0	10	0
„ „ „ „.....	2	2	0
„ Annual Congress—Printing.....	4	18	0
„ „ „ District Representative.....	£48	3	3
„ „ „ „.....	7	0	6
	55	3	9

	£	s.	d.
By Clerks.....			184 5 0
„ Office Expenses—Fire, Light, and Cleaning	£29	10	6
Rent	50	0	0
„ Telephone		79	10 6
„ Auditor		0	19 2
„ Bank Commission and Cheque Book		1	1 0
„ Sandries		15	6
		0	12 1
		1834	19 11½
„ Balance at Bank....£230 6 6 }			
„ Petty Cash 28 15 9 }	Balance in Hand.....	259	2 3
		£1594	2 2½

I have Audited the foregoing Accounts and certify same to be correct,

A. E. NEWMAN, Public Auditor.

15th March, 1919.

II.—SCOTLAND.

The Central Council have much pleasure in submitting the annual report and balance sheet, and trust you will give it your earnest consideration.

The past session has been a most eventful one. The signing of the armistice and the cessation of warfare has relieved the anxiety of those whose loved ones were in the danger zone, and it is our earnest wish that never again shall we be compelled to go through the same experience. We hope the labour differences will be satisfactorily decided, and the way made clear for the many schemes of reconstruction so necessary for the well-being of the nation. We have pleasure in recording the opening of twelve new branches, viz., Townhill, Rosyth, Markinch, Auchtermuchty, Inverness, Invergordon, Kinghorn, Kingseat, Kirkcaldy (Links Street), Dalmarnock, Langside, and Airth. **Lanark** Branch, which has been closed for some years, has been resuscitated. The membership stands at 16,705, a decrease of 680. This is accounted for by the great amount of sickness prevalent during the whole of the session, and we are confident that, when conditions become normal again, the lapsed members will be made good.

It is with deep regret that we have to record the death of our esteemed ex-General Secretary, Mrs. Lamont, which took place in July, 1918. To the bereaved family we extend our heartfelt sympathy.

The extension of the franchise to include women of thirty enabled the majority of our members to exercise their vote at the general election. Past and present members of the Central Council offered their services during the election period on behalf of the three co-operative candidates, and, although their efforts were not crowned with success, we are hopeful that our members will be better organised before the next election. Some of our members will be candidates for the new educational authorities, and we are taking part in Parish, Town, and County Council elections.

Co-operative political two-days schools have been formed under the auspices of the Co-operative Union Limited as follows:—Motherwell, Mr. Agnew; Glasgow, Mr. A. M. Welsh; Lochgelly, Mrs. Watson.

The classes for women co-operators have also been formed under the auspices of the Co-operative Union at the following places:—Glasgow

(Southern), Glasgow (Northern), Edinburgh, Leith, Ayr, Coatbridge, Dunfermline, Perth, Aberdeen, Stenhousemuir, Clydebank, Hamilton, Dalkeith, Cowdenbeath, and Port Glasgow.

A joint committee, consisting of representatives of the Glasgow and Suburbs Conference Association, Central Council, and the executives of Sections I. and II., visited every branch in the Glasgow and Suburbs area and addressed the members on the vote and direct representation.

OTHER MEETINGS.

Two meetings were held with the sectional presidents and secretaries, at which reports were given and future policy discussed. The meetings were most helpful. The rules revising committee met and framed several proposed alterations, which have been issued to the branches.

SCOTTISH CO-OPERATIVE WOMEN'S GUILD BALANCE SHEET, 1917-18.

INCOME.			EXPENDITURE.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Balance, as per last Report.....	42	0 9	By Expenses	1	10 11
„ Grant from Co-operative Union.....	175	0 0	„ Grants to Sections	41	0 0
„ „ U.C.B.S. Ltd.....	15	0 0	„ Line for Co-operative Home ...	2	0 0
„ „ S.C.W.S. Ltd.....	25	0 0	„ Ten Conference Subscriptions ..	1	10 0
„ „ Hamilton Baking			„ Secretary's Salary	15	0 0
„ „ Society Ltd.....	1	0 0	„ President's Salary	6	0 0
„ „ Co-operative News-			„ Treasurer's Salary	7	0 0
„ „ paper Society Ltd..	2	2 0	„ Central Council Expenses	55	5 11
„ „ Laundry Association	1	10 0	„ „ Delegations ...	30	15 0
„ Branch Fees from last year	0	16 2	„ Conferences with Sections	4	5 8
„ Badges	8	6 1	„ Printing	74	5 10
„ Song Books.....	1	9 7	„ Postages	11	8 8
„ Literature	0	3 0	„ Finance Meeting Expenses	2	0 2
„ Printing (Section I.)	6	14 9	„ Subscription to Veterans' Associa-		
„ „ (Section III.)	3	1 6	„ „ tion.....	1	1 0
„ „ (Section VI.)	4	1 0	„ „ National Vigilance		
„ „ (Section VII.)	4	18 6	„ „ Association ..	0	5 0
„ Branch Subscriptions	63	19 5	„ „ S.C. Women's		
„ Bank Interest	1	8 9	„ „ Trades	0	5 0
„ Interest on Share in Co-operator			„ „ Ambulance Centre ..	0	5 0
„ Newspaper Society.....	0	1 0	„ „ Women's Suffrage	0	5 0
„ Refunded Printing Account, Mrs.			„ Expenses re Protest Meeting		
„ Lamont's Testimonial.....	1	13 6	„ against D.O.R.A. 40b—Women's		
„ Donation from Hodgson Pratt			„ International League	1	7 5
„ Memorial Fund	5	0 0	„ Delegate's Fee to Co-operative		
„ Refunded by Delegate—Summer			„ and Labour Council	0	4 0
„ School.....	3	4 0	„ Delegates' (2) Expenses to Veter-		
„ Refunded by G. & B.Co-op. Society			„ erans' Meeting	0	14 1
„ for Propaganda Work	1	12 3	„ Delegate's Fee, National Confer-		
			„ ence.....	0	1 9
			„ Lecturer's Fee at Annual Meeting	1	1 0
			„ Gratuities	1	9 0
			„ Literature	2	14 1
			„ Insurance Premium	2	0 0
			„ Mrs. McLean's Propaganda Ex-		
			„ penses.....	3	5 0
			„ Mrs. Hill's Propaganda Expenses	4	6 0
			„ Delegates' (4) Expenses to Summer		
			„ School	11	13 0
			„ Honorarium to President and		
			„ Treasurer	14	0 0
			„ Badges.....	10	16 0
Carried forward	368	2 3	Carried forward	307	14 6

	£	s.	d.
<i>Brought forward</i>	368	2	3
 JAMES TRAINER, ELIZABETH THOMSON, } Auditors.			
	£368	2	3

	£	s.	d.
<i>Brought forward</i>	307	14	6
By Three Photographs and Frames of C.C. sent to Homes	1	1	6
„ Expenses—Rules Revising Com- mittee	2	7	8
„ Shares— Co-operative Convales- cent Homes Ltd.	£3	0	0
Scottish Co-operator	1	9	4
„ Cash in Bank	41	8	9
„ Cash on hand	11	0	6
	56	18	7
	£368	2	3

III.—IRELAND.

The Executive Committee of the Irish Co-operative Women's Guild have pleasure in submitting the annual report and financial statement for the year ending 1st March, 1919.

The executive have made every effort to strengthen the guild movement during the past year, but regret that the Portadown and Enniskillen branches ceased to exist and an effort to revive them did not meet with success. Want of travelling facilities considerably handicapped the executive, which could not visit so freely as it otherwise would. Nevertheless the executive managed to keep in touch with all the branches in the north and south.

A new branch—Citric Road—was formed in Dublin during September, 1918, and bids fair to have a successful career in the Irish capital.

With regard to membership, in 1918-19, we are numerically stronger—the total membership now reaching 935. This figure is steadily advancing, particularly in Belfast, in which the main strength of the movement in Ireland lies.

Generally speaking much enthusiasm marks the branches everywhere. The capacity of women as citizens is now fully acknowledged, and guilds-women as citizens must see that their place in national life is assured to them in future.

ANNUAL MEETING.

In the Mansion House, Dublin, on the 29th June, 1918, the 11th Annual Meeting was held, Mrs. A. C. Husband presiding. Mrs. Nolan, on behalf of the Dublin guildswomen, gave a warm welcome to the delegates.

The presidential address of Mrs. Husband, in the course of which she thanked the Dublin guilds for their cordial greeting, was brimful of sound advice and counsel as to the policy of the guilds during the strenuous times they were passing through.

Mrs. Dickson's (Dublin) paper on "Women's Part in Co-operation and Politics" was listened to with much appreciation and favourably criticised.

CO-OPERATION AND RECONSTRUCTION.

On this very important subject, the following resolution was moved by Mrs. Moore (Belfast), seconded by Mrs. Anderson (Lisburn), and unanimously approved :—

That we, Irish guildswomen, reaffirm our faith in the principles of co-operation ; we advocate co-operative as opposed to competitive methods of trading, and call upon all our members to loyally support the movement in this time of crisis, in order that further co-operative enterprise, productive and distributive, may develop in the future, and co-operation play a worthy part in the work of national reconstruction after the war.

MOTHERS' PENSIONS.

The following resolution, moved by Mrs. McCoubrey (Belfast), seconded by Mrs. Flowerdew (Belfast), was very warmly received and passed :—

That this meeting warmly supports the principle underlying the scheme for mothers' pensions now in operation in the United States of America, which recognises the valued services rendered to the community by mothers who tend and cherish their children in the home, and urges that a similar scheme be established in this country. Further, that the Executive Council be instructed to bring forward this subject for discussion in branches during the coming session.

WOMEN'S CLASSES.

Two classes were conducted in Belfast and Dublin. Both were well attended and interest well maintained by the students.

Whilst it is regrettable that there are so few "Young People's Circles" and Junior Guilds working, it is pleasant to be able to record that the "Young People's Circle" and Junior Guild in connection with No. 2 Ballymacarett Branch are steadily increasing in membership and giving the first fruits of the care and attention bestowed upon them in the past four years. The Educational Committee of the Belfast Society has made a start in promoting the formation of juvenile classes. In the autumn of 1918, dancing and elocution classes were formed in connection with the juvenile organisations of No. 2 Ballymacarett Branch and have made much progress. In Dublin the "Young People's Circle" in connection with the Industrial Branch is also progressing favourably.

REPRESENTATION ON COMMITTEES.

The result of the elections in connection with the Belfast Society were one seat gained on the Management Committee, and one lost on the Educational Committee. Ballymena returns two representatives and Dublin one on their respective management committees. Representatives on the Northern District Conference Association have been increased from five to

seven, and one representative on the committee of the Northern District Conference Association.

JOINT ACTION WITH OTHER BODIES.

This was chiefly in connection with the Mothers' Pension scheme. Some useful work was accomplished and the executive have hopes that the scheme will take tangible form in the coming year.

The executive was represented on a deputation which waited upon the Belfast City Council urging that the Bill for the Medical Inspection of School Children be made operative in Ireland immediately, and also on a deputation representative of all sections of public opinion in Belfast, demanding that the question of educational reform be immediately proceeded with.

Through the joint committees for mothers' pension, the guild work took a very active part in interviewing prospective members of Parliament for Belfast, on the question of provision for necessitous widows with children, and were incidentally enabled to focus attention on the co-operative movement and its educational work.

The executive desire to return their warmest thanks for the very generous donations granted in aid of the funds by the Co-operative Union, United Co-operative Baking Society, Irish Agricultural Wholesale Society, and the Lisburn, Enniskillen, Ballymena, and Belfast societies and Educational Committees.

Financial statement for 12 months ending 1st March, 1919 :—

Income.			Expenditure.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Balance brought forward	3	9 10	By Executive Meetings	18	5 6
„ Grant—Co-operative Union	50	0 0	„ Opening and Visiting Branches ..	5	6 2
„ Subscriptions from Societies, &c. .	29	15 6	„ Expenses of Two Days School		
„ Affiliation Fees	6	7 6	(not included in last report)....	5	13 8
„ Literature	0	5 2	„ Annual Meeting (Dublin)	22	13 6
„ Proceeds of Concert	9	0 7	„ Advertising	0	6 6
„ Interest and Dividend	1	0 6	„ Literature	0	4 0
			„ Printing	8	7 6
			„ Two Delegates to Summer School	3	15 0
			„ Attache Case	0	15 9
			„ Affiliation Fees I.C.C.A. (2 years)	9	3 4
			„ Secretary's Salary	5	0 0
			„ Treasurer's Salary	2	0 0
			„ Postage and Petty Cash	4	7 6
			„ Balance—Belfast Society	8	16 11
			„ „ in Treasurer's hands ..	5	3 9
£99 19 1			£99 19 1		

Audited and found correct.
(Signed) Wm. M. KNOX.

11th March, 1919.

MARGARET T. MCCOUBREY, General Secretary.

VI.—THE INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE ALLIANCE.

(See Report 55, page 241.)

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS FOR 1916, 1917, AND 1918.

Country.	Subscriptions and Donations for 1916.	Subscriptions and Donations for 1917.	Subscriptions and Donations for 1918.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Argentina	1 4 0	1 16 0	1 4 0
Austria .....	....	....	....
Hungary .....	....	....	....
Belgium .....	....	....	....
Bulgaria .....	....	....	....
Canada .....	....	5 12 0	....
Cyprus.....	1 0 0	....	*2 0 0
Denmark	30 0 0	33 14 9	29 9 6
Finland	48 2 0	57 2 0	101 18 0
France.....	77 19 0	88 2 11	81 15 2
Germany.....	....	....	....
India .....	....	....	....
Italy	16 14 0	15 18 4	16 13 7
Japan	0 12 0	0 12 0	0 12 0
Netherlands	28 12 4	13 18 0	37 12 2
Norway	9 17 3	9 5 0	9 5 0
Roumania .....	....	....	....
Russia.....	27 10 6	12 7 2	35 0 0
Serbia .....	....	....	....
Spain	5 0 0	....	....
Sweden	30 12 0	30 1 0	30 1 0
Switzerland	96 13 4	111 8 6	†106 3 4
United Kingdom ..	670 16 6	739 8 6	770 0 8
United States	0 6 0	2 6 0	2 7 1
Total	£1044 18 11	£1121 12 2	£1224 1 6

* Subscriptions, 1917 and 1918. † Estimated.

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE ALLIANCE.

BALANCE SHEET FROM 1ST JANUARY TO 31ST DECEMBER, 1918.
CASH ACCOUNT.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To Balance in hand	12	0	0	By Salaries	580	0	0
" Subscriptions	1111	1	3	" Rent, Cleaning, Heating, &c.	87	5	8
" Donations	0	12	6	" Printing and Stationery	33	14	2
" Sale of Reports and Publications	4	4	6	" Postages and Telegrams	16	4	5
" <i>Bulletin</i>	38	13	7	" Carriage and Sundries	6	10	3
" Glasgow Report	0	13	4	" <i>Bulletin</i> —Printing and Translations	866	19	2
" Year Book I. and II.	1	18	6	" Purchase of Books, &c.	2	11	2
" Books on Commission, &c.	1	1	6	" Removal Charges	2	12	6
" <i>Bulletin</i> Advertisements	50	0	0	" Loss by Burglary	33	3	7
" Typewriting and Office Assistance	22	0	0	" Library and Furnishing	1	7	3
" Bank Withdrawals	1148	11	6	" National Health Insurance	0	17	3
				" Travelling Expenses, &c.	14	10	6
				" Bank Deposits	1230	0	9
				" Balance in hand	15	0	0
					£2390	16	8

BANK ACCOUNT.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To Balances	2048	16	6	By Withdrawals	1148	11	6
" Cash Deposits	1230	0	9	" Commission and Charges	2	7	0
" Interest—Current Account	£9	5	6	" Balances—			
" " Deposit Account	69	11	6	Current Account	£633	18	0
" Dividend—Current Account	78	17	0	Deposit Account	1574	2	2
	1	4	5		2208	0	2
	£3358	18	8		£3358	18	8

LIABILITIES AND ASSETS.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To Accounts owing—				By Office Furniture—Estimated	50	0	0
Rent, Cleaning, Heating, &c. ...	37	3	6	" Subscriptions outstanding	119	2	2
Printing and Translating <i>Bulletin</i>	125	10	0	" Stock of Publications ..	15	0	0
	162	13	6	" Accounts owing	6	5	0
" Balance of Assets over Liabilities	2250	13	10	" Cash in Bank	£2208	0	2
	42413	7	4	" " Hand	15	0	0
					2223	0	2
					£2413	7	4

I have carefully examined the Books and Accounts of the International Co-operative Alliance for the year ending 31st December, 1918, and hereby certify the above statement as correct.

N. H. COOPER,

PUBLIC AUDITOR.

July, 1919.

Reports of the Sections and District Associations.

(1) IRELAND.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SECTIONAL BOARD AND OF THE IRISH CO-OPERATIVE CONFERENCE ASSOCIATION.

(a) THE SECTIONAL BOARD.

The following appointments were made on 6th July, 1918, at meeting held in Larne, viz. :—

<i>Chairman</i> ..	Mr. J. Palmer.
<i>Treasurer</i> ..	Mr. H. Archer.
<i>Secretary and Editor of "Wheatsheaf"</i> <i>(Irish issue)</i> ..	Mr. W. M. Knox.
<i>Representatives on Central Board—</i> Messrs. J. Palmer and W. G. Kane.	
<i>Representative on United Board and Office Committee—</i> Mr. J. Palmer.	
„ <i>Central Education Committee—</i>	Mr. H. Archer.

Eleven meetings were held during the year with attendances as under, viz. :—

	Present.	Absent.
Mr. J. Adams ..	10	1
Mr. H. Archer ..	8	3
Mr. L. P. Byrne ..	8	3
Mr. W. Gray ..	10	1
Mr. W. G. Kane ..	11	—
Mr. W. J. McGuffin ..	11	—
Mr. J. Palmer ..	11	—

Honorary Member—Mr. R. Fleming.

(a) THE SECTIONAL BOARD.

During the past twelve months the increase in cost of living, the great extension of trade union organisation, and the deepening interest in social questions generally have aroused a keen desire to become acquainted with the practical advantages of co-operation throughout the whole of Ireland. The

prospects at the present time for the formation of new societies, notwithstanding the disabilities of trading still involved by the control of food, are exceptionally bright. In many places (Limerick, Coleraine, Castlecomer Collieries are instances), where propagandist work was done years ago without any practical result, new societies are now being registered with considerable hopes of success.

The Finisk Society in co. Waterford, registered early in the year, commenced business on 15th August last. Difficulties were experienced in getting supplies; the society could not get its members' sugar cards transferred to it; and cash trading was decided on by the committee—a method of business almost unknown in Ireland; yet the society has got the loyal support of its members and has done very well. It is working in an entirely agricultural district, and the most of its members are farm labourers.

At Tralee, co. Kerry, where the society had been registered in 1916, but had not been able to get started in business, the share capital was held for a time and finally distributed again to the subscribers some twelve months ago. Towards the end of the year, however, it was determined to try again. A meeting was held in the month of December, a shop was taken, and it is hoped to start trading very shortly.

Limerick City Society was registered early in 1918, but owing to political unrest the energies of the provisional committee fell off; since then, however, renewed activity is taking place and a most successful meeting was held in the Town Hall in December, and a vigorous canvass for members has been going on since.

In addition to above, inquiries have been received from and information and literature have been sent to Adare and Kilmallock, co. Limerick; Athy and Kildare, co. Kildare; Dunmore and Kilkenny, co. Kilkenny; Enniscorthy and Wexford, co. Wexford; Listowel, co. Kerry; Mallow, co. Cork; Castlebar, co. Mayo; and Galway Town.

The Sectional Board interviewed the Food Control Committee during the year to obtain permission for transfer of sugar cards to new societies and to existing societies where the cards had been placed elsewhere. This permission was refused, and further action is being taken in the matter. Local Food Control Committees in Dublin, Belfast, and Cork were approached with regard to improved flour supplies with good effect, and the question of milk supply was also urged upon the committees, and resulted in a reduction in price for Belfast during the month of December.

The first Irish Summer School was held at the Grammar School, Larne, in July, for two weeks, and was attended by about thirty students each week. Lectures were delivered by Messrs. Hall, Smith-Gordon, and Byrne, and the school was most successful in every way. A Week-end School was held in Dublin at the close of the Summer School. Mr. Hall gave four lectures, and there were fifty students present for the course.

The usual monthly reports were submitted by the secretary, dealing with the propaganda and audit work. The accounts of the following societies

have been audited half-yearly or quarterly during the year, including the checking of annual returns and a number of triennial returns, viz. :—Armagh, Ballymena, City of Cork, Clonmel, Coalisland, Dublin Industrial, Dublin University, Dungannon, Drumreaney, Drumaness, Enniskillen, Greenore, Inchicore, Larne, Lucan, Middletown, Newtownards, Ochilmore, Queenstown, Renvyle, Sligo, Warrenpoint, Waterford, Rosslare Harbour, and Tydavnet. The fees received for audit work are credited to the Union and amounted to £128. 12s. 6d. for the year ending 31st December, 1918.

Members of the Board have paid visits to societies and attended meetings, &c., at the following places, viz. :—Ballymena, Cork, Dublin, Dungannon, Larne, Lucan, Middletown, and Newtownards.

Subjoined is a statement of Board expenses charged to the Union during 1918:—

Receipts.	£	s.	d.	Expenditure.	£	s.	d.
To Balance in hand	10	0	0	By Executive Meetings	78	19	3
„ Cash from Central Office.....	71	14	10	„ Conferences and Deputations....	30	3	8
„ Cash due to Treasurer	32	14	4	„ General Printing	5	6	3
	£114	9	2		£114	9	2

(b) ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CONFERENCE ASSOCIATION.

(NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN DISTRICTS.)

The Northern District Conference was held on the premises of the Armagh Society on 27th April, when Mr. R. Fleming submitted a synopsis of Mr. D. McInnes' paper on "Farming by Distributive Co-operative Societies." The suggestions in the paper were discussed with interest and favour by many of the delegates. The setting up of district associations was discussed and referred to the executive to prepare a report and suggestions for next conference.

A conference of the societies in the Southern District was held in the Plunkett House, Dublin, on 20th July. An outline of the draft scheme for district associations was submitted, and it was agreed that it should be put before the societies for consideration, and that it should then be brought forward at the annual joint conference to be held in the autumn. Mr. Hall gave an address on the Trade Report of the Survey Committee, and in the discussion it was agreed that a recommendation should go to the next conference to urge on the United Board the appointment of an Irish Survey Committee to deal with the special problems of the movement in Ireland.

The Annual Joint Conference was held in Portadown on 28th September. The delegates attending represented 22 societies and organisations. It was agreed that the Irish Sectional Board ask the Co-operative Union to approve of the setting up of a committee to prepare a survey of the co-operative movement in Ireland.

Resolutions were adopted dissolving the Irish Co-operative Conference Association and forming the societies in the association into three District

Co-operative Associations, viz., the Northern, Midland, and Southern, with a committee to carry on the work allocated to each district, and special rules for each district: The members of the committees to be elected before 1st January, 1919, and the secretary and treasurer of the Sectional Board to be *ex-officio* members of each district committee.

Thanks are owing to the local societies for their hospitality on the occasion of each of the above conferences.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1918:—

THE TREASURER IN ACCOUNT WITH THE IRISH CO-OPERATIVE
CONFERENCE ASSOCIATION.

Receipts.	£	s.	d.	Expenditure.	£	s.	d.
To Subscriptions from Societies, Guilds, &c.	90	18	5	By Conferences—			
„ Audit Fees received	128	12	6	Dublin, 1917.....	1	7	10
„ <i>Wheatsheafs</i>	1	6	8	Armagh	15	13	0
„ Week-end School, Dublin	9	12	6	Dublin.....	12	2	7
				Portadown.....	47	18	6
				„ <i>Wheatsheafs</i> —Refund.....	1	6	8
				„ Printing	5	14	0
Audited—				„ Week-end School, Dublin—			
JOHN B. TAYLOR.				Expenses	10	0	11
				„ Postages and Bank Charges	1	7	6
				„ Audit Fees—			
				Remitted to Co-op. Union	128	12	6
Total Income	230	10	1	Total Expenditure.....	224	3	6
„ Cash in hand, 31st Dec., 1917	22	5	7	„ Cash in hand, 31st Dec., 1918....	28	12	2
	£252	15	8		£252	15	8

JOHN PALMER, Chairman.

W. M. KNOX, Secretary.

(2) MIDLAND SECTION.

The attendances of the members of the Board have been as follows :—

	Present.	Absent.	On Deputation.	Possible.
Mr. G. Bastard.....	6	*3	1	10
Mr. J. Butcher.....	9	*1	—	10
Mr. W. J. Douse	10	—	—	10
Mr. G. Harris	10	—	—	10
Mr. A. H. Jones	1	9	—	10
Mr. J. Langley.....	9	*1	—	10
Mr. W. Millerchip	7	†3	—	10
Mr. J. Millington	9	—	1	10
Mr. C. A. W. Saxton	10	—	—	10
Mr. J. G. Shacklock	6	*4	—	10
Mr. W. Warren	9	—	1	10

* Sick. † Sick on one occasion.

Honorary Members.

Present.	Present.
Mr. E. L. Griffiths	Mr. W. W. Smith
Mr. D. McInnes	Mr. G. Woodhouse.....
Mr. S. Redfern	

The following appointments were made at the first meeting, held at Tamworth, on 1st June, 1918:—

Chairman : Mr. J. Millington.

Representatives—

On the United Board.....Messrs. W. J. Douse and G. Harris.

„ *Office Committee*.....Mr. W. J. Douse.

„ *Educational Committee*Mr. A. H. Jones.

„ *Joint Propaganda Committee*.....Mr. J. Langley.

„ *Parliamentary Representation Committee*..Mr. C. A. W. Saxton.

On Sectional Choral Association Committee..... Mr. W. Millerchip.

„ *Educational Association Committee*Mr. J. Millington.

„ *Propaganda Committee*Messrs. G. Bastard, J. Langley,
W. Warren, and C. A. W. Saxton.

The following will show the position of the movement in the Section on 1st January, 1918. The figures for the year are not yet available, but will be published after Congress in the Report issued to Societies

	1918.
No. of Societies	212
No. of Members	513,183
Share Capital	£6,529,680
Loan Capital	£1,016,047
Sales	£18,574,350
Net Surplus.....	£1,689,659
Reserves	£508,822

The year 1918 will be recorded in history as the year in which the Armistice was signed which meant the ending of the greatest war the world has ever known and we trust that with the establishment of a League of Nations wars will never recur.

Notwithstanding the difficulty in obtaining supplies and the refusal of some societies to enrol new members or limiting the sales to them of certain articles, together with a falling off of propaganda work, owing to difficulties of train and motor service, we have to report that the movement in the section has made headway during the past year.

The Sectional Board has, by representation on the executive committees, kept in touch with the educational and choral associations, and in the same manner in conjunction with the district secretaries has assisted, through the Propaganda Committee, in arranging propaganda work on behalf of societies in the various districts.

The Educational Association has been doing good work in arranging conferences and week-end schools: at Worcester, in September, the school was organised jointly with the Sectional Board and was a great success, the Cathedral authorities giving every assistance with that object in view.

The Sectional Choral Association are to be congratulated on the fact that the annual festival was again held, this year at Leicester, and, notwithstanding the difficulties in securing male voices owing to so many men having joined the colours, was a great success. The manner in which those who are responsible for the carrying on of the work of this association have struggled against adverse circumstances merits the thanks of all true lovers of music.

The members of the Sectional Board, in addition to speaking at propaganda and members' meetings, have also attended meetings of women's and men's guilds by request, particular interest having been taken by such in the Survey Committee's report.

FARMING BY DISTRIBUTIVE SOCIETIES.

As the result of the reading of Mr. D. McInnes' paper entitled "Farming by Distributive Co-operative Societies" in January, 1918, and referred to in our last year's report, many societies have taken up farming either by purchasing or renting land for that purpose, whilst others have further

extended their operations in this direction. Although we have not the full particulars, the following will show the remarkable progress and development made in this direction; the enterprise of Desborough some years ago, as well as Leicester and Lincoln, the latter society by recent purchase now farms nearly 1,500 acres; Coventry has acquired 972 acres, Gainsborough 690, Tamworth 580, Nottingham 428, Peterborough recently added 286 acres to that already in their possession, Hinckley have 288 acres, Worcester 276, Long Buckby 270, Rugby 269, Raunds 247, Burton-on-Trent 251, Lockhurst Lane 228, Walsall and Cannock societies own jointly 220 acres, Barwell 130, while Long Eaton have purchased an additional 100 acres, Nuneaton has likewise purchased a small but valuable piece of land near that town.

It is interesting to note that the Birmingham Society is appealing for capital especially for use in farming.

SECTIONAL CONFERENCES.

The first of a series of three conferences was held on Saturday, October 19th, viz., at Birmingham, Leicester, and Lincoln, to consider the Survey Committee's Report *re* "Constitution of the Co-operative Union" The subject was introduced by Messrs. W. Warren, T. Horrocks, and J. G. Shacklock. There was a good attendance at each meeting, and the various proposals were discussed by the delegates, who were somewhat critical on some points, particularly with regard to the constitution of the Educational Advisory Committee.

The second series was held on January 18th, 1919, as follows:—At Coventry, Derby, and Retford. The Survey Committee's Report relating to "Trade" was the subject for discussion and was introduced by Messrs. W. Millerchip, Professor F. Hall, M.A., B.Com., and W. J. Douse respectively. At each of the meetings the delegates were somewhat critical, especially with regard to the suggestion relative to establishing "A Co-operative Investment Society," also "The Formation of a special Banking Society," the contention being that the Co-operative Wholesale Society met these requirements. Each of the conferences were well attended.

In addition to those mentioned a joint sectional conference was held in connection with the Week-end School, at Worcester, on Saturday, September 7th, when Mr. F. Spire, of Birmingham, introduced the subject for discussion, viz., "Reconstruction in Politics." There was a lively interest taken by the delegates in view of the decisions of Swansea and Liverpool Congresses in favour of political action.

HOURS AND WAGES BOARDS.

The various hours and wages boards have either separately or in groups been actively engaged in dealing with applications for alterations in conditions of employment, both as regards hours and wages, and generally with satisfactory results.

With a view to considering how best to fully utilise the hours and wages

boards three meetings of representatives from management committees were held as follows :—At Long Eaton on February 8th, Birmingham on February 15th, and Kettering on February 22nd, at each of which the Co-operative Union Labour Adviser, Mr. J. Pollitt, attended and gave an address on the benefits of such boards, and after discussion the following resolutions were carried at each meeting :—

That the representatives from management committees here present pledge themselves to refer all applications by the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employees and other unions for alterations in conditions of employment to their respective hours and wages boards ; also

That this meeting heartily approves of the appointment of an executive committee consisting of one representative from each district Hours and Wages Board, together with the Chairman and Secretary of the Sectional Board, for consultative and advisory purposes, on questions common to the whole of the societies in the section.

CONCILIATION BOARD.

The Midland District Conciliation Board has met on several occasions to deal with appeals made to them from societies, and in one instance from an Hours and Wages Board, when agreements could not be come to with the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employees.

Some serious complaint has been made that the organiser for the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employees who prepares the case for his Union also sits as a member of the Conciliation Board, and it is desired that steps be taken to alter this in the constitution of the conciliation boards.

POLITICAL ACTION.

During the past year much work has been done for the purpose of educating the members with regard to political action. Two-days schools were held at Leicester, Stapleford, Codnor Park, and Stirchley, at which the teacher was Mr. W. Millerchip ; at Nottingham, teacher, W. J. Douse ; Birmingham, teacher, Mr. F. H. Bruff ; at Northampton and Coventry, teacher, Mr. C. A. W. Saxton ; in addition more than a score one-day schools were held. Eighty-three societies in the section are affiliated to the National Co-operative Representation Committee, and subscribed the sum of £884. 8s. to the fund.

During the General Election members of the Sectional Board rendered assistance to the three co-operative candidates in the section, who also had valuable help from prominent co-operators, members of women's and men's guilds, and district associations, and the result of election gives the Midland Section, through Mr. A. E. Waterson, M.P., for Kettering, the honour of returning the first co-operative member of Parliament.

REGIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEES.

The co-operative societies' representatives on the Regional Advisory Committees which were set up by the Ministry of National Service, were able

to render valuable assistance in securing the retention of pivotal men in civil life and obtaining certificates for same, whereby societies were exempt from making periodical appeals to the local tribunals for exemption.

CONVALESCENT FUND.

This fund continued to make progress during the past year, six societies joined the fund, making the total 102, and efforts will be made during the current year to induce those societies not yet attached to become affiliated and thus help on this truly co-operative work. At the annual meeting a resolution was carried unanimously urging the Government to at once set up a Ministry of Health, more especially because of the inadequate provision made for sanatorium treatment for tuberculosis cases.

THE LATE MR. S. BUTLER.

Our report for last Congress had gone to press before the death of our old and esteemed colleague, Mr. Samuel Butler, of Long Eaton. We therefore take this opportunity of placing on record our appreciation of the valuable services he rendered for so many years to the societies in the section as a member of the Sectional Board.

In conclusion, we trust that now the terrible war is ended societies will do their best to advocate the cause of co-operation, in which they can always rely on the assistance of the members of the Sectional Board.

J. MILLINGTON, Chairman.

CHAS. A. W. SAXTON, Secretary.

THE MIDLAND CO-OPERATIVE CONVALESCENT FUND.

Executive Committee:

Mr. G. Woodhouse (chairman), C.W.S.	Mr. W. Warren, Derby.
„ Chas. A. W. Saxton (secretary), Worcester.	„ J. Webb, Northampton.
„ D. McInnes, C.W.S.	„ J. Millington, Birmingham.
„ W. J. Douse, Nottingham.	„ S. Kemp, Leicester.
„ C. W. Brown, Coalville.	„ G. Harris, Lincoln.
„ F. H. Bruff, Birmingham Printers.	„ B. Butler, Wellingborough.

In presenting this our annual report and statement of accounts, we heartily congratulate the members on the satisfactory progress made under very difficult circumstances during the past year.

The number of cases dealt with and the grants made to our convalescent members show a material increase when compared with the previous year, notwithstanding the fact that the accommodation in many homes has been limited, owing to many beds having been rightly allocated to our brave sailors and soldiers, to whom we owe so much.

The arrangements made during 1917 with regard to making grants to enable patients to attend as out-patients, both at St. John's Brine Baths, Droitwich, and Devonshire Hospital, Buxton, have been continued during the past year with satisfactory results.

We wish to express our thanks to the staff at the various homes for the kindness and sympathetic consideration given to our members while under their care, thus materially assisting to bring them back to health.

With the conclusion of the world war, we suggest that no more fitting way of celebrating the victory granted to us could be found by those societies in the section not yet members, than their at once becoming affiliated to our fund. Some societies have deferred action until the close of war, and we propose seeking interviews with committees and members for the purpose of securing their sympathy and support in the work of what is essentially a co-operative organisation, and shall not be satisfied until every society in the section shows practical interest in our work by affiliation.

Six societies have joined the fund during the year, making the present total one hundred and two.

Grants have been made to 438 applicants from 58 societies, made up as follows:—213 men; 209 women, and 16 children.

Subscriptions amounted to £1,533, 6s. 1d., being an increase of £146. 5s. 6d., and the contributions of convalescents or their friends £73. 3s. 9d., an increase of £21. 5s. 8d. when compared with 1917. The net amount expended in grants was £1,362. 5s. 1d., an increase of £527. 4s.

We hope that subscribers will feel satisfaction that their Convalescent Fund has been of such service at a time of unparalleled need, that it has fulfilled during another year the objects for which it was founded, and that in the future its influence for good will be extended.

GEO. WOODHOUSE, Chairman.

CHAS. A. W. SAXTON, Secretary.

REPORTS OF THE DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS.

No. 1.—NORTHAMPTON AND EARLS BARTON.

Executive Committee.

Mr. W. J. Rogers (chairman), Northampton.
 „ G. T. James (secretary), Moulton.
 „ W. Mellows, Harpole.

Mr. J. G. Frisby, Long Buckby.
 „ C. Richardson, Northampton.
 „ J. C. Cooper, Earls Barton.
 „ E. T. Barnes, Daventry.

The year's work has ended under brighter aspects of peace for the nations of the world. We have felt the effects of difficult transport, and in consequence our efforts for arranging more meetings have been somewhat

curtailed. Nevertheless, we have held good conferences, which have been well attended.

The societies have increased in both membership and trade. On 8th February, we held our Annual United Conference, which is a reunion of the two districts, our own and Kettering and Wellingborough. Mr. J. Langley presided over a large gathering, and Mr. W. J. Rogers, chairman, introduced the subject "Can we Improve the Methods and Conduct of Co-operative Trading." A good discussion followed this address.

The Long Buckby Society's farms of 270 acres have proved successful, and they have paid a dividend of 4d. in the £ to their members from the profits out of the land. The stock was valued at £2,489. 13s. ; 267 acres are the society's own freehold land.

The cinema is still running, and also the hair-dressing saloon.

The outcome of a conference held at this society on "Co-operative Agriculture," introduced by Mr. Croft, manager, a proposal to form a Farming Association, was adopted. Delegates have met and discussed this question, and events show it may become a realisation.

Everyone has been busy on political action, the election in this district resulting in the success of Mr. A. E. Waterson, of Derby, being elected for Mid-Northants as the first co-operative M.P. Our chairman, Mr. W. J. Rogers, fought a good fight in the south. There was not any political machinery in the constituency when he started on his campaign, but he has done well, and will do better in future.

The executive has addressed meetings and done propaganda work where possible. The men's and women's guilds are still carrying on their work. A successful two-days summer school, under the supervision of Mr. Saxton, was a successful event and much appreciated.

The Northampton Choir has done well since it started, and will prove useful in supplying musical items at meetings.

The managers have met together and discussed trading questions and other items beneficial to co-operative societies.

The Daventry Society has purchased a 117 acre farm.

The Northampton Society and the committee trust that, under more normal conditions, they may be able to erect several new grocery branches in the town and a store in the village of Roade; they are also making efforts to obtain premises at Towcester for a branch. The Grange Farm of 247 acres at Denton is now taken over by the society, and it is shortly taking possession of the Church Farm.

Mr. C. Richardson, who has represented the society for many years on the district executive, has now retired. We desire to place on record our appreciation of his valued service. Mr. W. B. Wright has been appointed as the society's representative.

The Wages and Hours Board established in this district has held fifteen meetings and signed a Memorandum of Agreement with the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employees, with three scales of wages, from May 25th, 1918, and issued the same to societies.

The Earls Barton Society has increased its membership during the last year, and recommended their members to take up the Collective Life Insurance.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1918 :—

Receipts.			Expenditure.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Cash in hand, 31st Dec., 1917	0	2 6	By Attendances, Executive Meetings	2	11 10
„ Grant from Co-operative Union ..	8	4 5	„ District Conferences, &c.	3	7 1
„ Subscriptions from Societies	3	17 6	„ General Printing and Stationery .	1	17 8
„ Wages and Hours Board	0	11 8	„ Postages	0	8 4
			„ Wages and Hours Board	0	11 8
			„ Delegate to Congress	3	15 4
Audited—			„ Balance in hand of Treasurer,		
G. FAULKNER.			31st Dec., 1918	0	4 7
	£12	16 1		£12	16 1

G. T. JAMES, Secretary.

NO. 2.—KETTERING AND WELLINGBOROUGH.

Executive Committee.

Mr. F. Miller (president), Raunds.	Mr. C. Coe, Rothwell.
„ A. J. Foulds (secretary), Kettering.	„ H. Clayson, Wellingboro'.
„ J. Langley, Kettering.	„ G. Marlow, Desborough.
„ C. Stokes, Burton Latimer.	„ W. J. Cure, Rushden.

During the period under consideration, we have held three executive meetings, as follows :—

The first, at Finedon, when we had the pleasure of renewing the acquaintance of our old friend and colleague, Mr. T. Meadow, late a member of the Central Board.

The second was held under the auspices of the Desborough Society at the Co-operative Village of Harrington, on the society's estate.

The third was held at Rushden, this being the first meeting after the election of officers. Mr. J. Langley was elected chairman for the coming year, and Mr. F. Miller, the retiring president, was thanked for past services. After the ordinary business had been disposed of, Mr. H. Clayson gave an interesting and exhaustive report of the Educational Association week-end meetings at Woodbrook.

Mr. F. Miller also gave details of the week-end school at Worcester.

During the year four district conferences have been held, the first at Kettering under the auspices of the Clothing Society, which was a joint one with the Northampton and Earls Barton district.

The subject of "Co-operation and the Housing Problem" was introduced by Mr. W. Ballard, C.C.

The second was held in the Co-operative Hall, Market Harborough, on Saturday, May 11th, when a resolution was moved by Mr. W. J. Cure, of Rushden, seconded by Mr. C. Coe, of Rothwell, and carried unanimously, protesting against the prosecution of the Raunds Society and the

amount of the fine imposed for infringement of the Food Control Act. It was decided that copies of the resolution be sent to the Prime Minister, Home Secretary, and the Food Controller. Mr. H. Clayson, of Wellingborough, contributed an interesting and instructive paper on "Points from our Political Programme."

The third was held at Irchester on Saturday, July 27th, when a paper was read by Mr. F. Berrill, secretary of the Rushden Educational Committee; subject, "A Look Round." As the result of a suggestion made by the speaker *re* legal advice to members, the secretary was instructed to communicate with the secretary of the Co-operative Union with a view to ascertain if the question could be entertained by them. As a result of that inquiry, we are glad to be able to report that the Union have submitted a scheme to us—(1) The nature of advice that can be given; (2) the cost of same. We hope that, as a result of this conference and the information obtained, it will prove an additional source of usefulness to members and societies who may need such advice.

The fourth conference was held in the Wesleyan School, Irthlingborough, on Saturday, October 26th, when an excellent paper was read by Mr. A. C. Wade, of Wellingborough; subject—"Some Essentials to Co-operative Progress." At this conference a resolution was submitted and carried unanimously, protesting against the inadequate coal supplies.

All the conferences have been well attended and the subjects which have been discussed will, we hope, be productive of good results.

Two successful week-end schools have been held in the district during the year under the auspices of the Productive Federation.

The first was held at Kettering, when the efforts of the united educational committees of the town contributed in no small degree to the success which attended the gathering.

The other was held at Raunds, when the productive and distributive societies united in giving the large number of delegates present a hearty reception, and the opportunity afforded for social intercourse proved a great help in making the school a success.

The question of hours and wages of co-operative employees has engaged the attention of the District Hours and Wages Board, and as a result of a communication received from the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employees several meetings of the two bodies were held, but as no satisfactory arrangements could be reached, the question was referred to the Midland Conciliation Board, whose award has been made, which applies to all the societies affiliated to the District Hours and Wages Board.

As a result of the efforts put forth by the District Association last year in favour of united action among the democratic forces in the district to secure Parliamentary representation, we are pleased to record the return of Mr. W. H. Smith for the Wellingborough Division as the Labour and Co-operative M.P.; while in the Kettering Division Mr. A. Waterson has been returned as the first Co-operative M.P.

The Raunds Society, we are pleased to record, has purchased a farm and homestead of 247 acres, at a cost of £7,000.

The Rushden Society have commenced the cultivation of 40 additional acres which had been on lease.

We trust that these efforts and all those engaged in both productive and distributive, social and educational, will be crowned with success in the year upon which we have entered.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1918 :—

Receipts.			Expenditure.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Cash in hand, 1st Jan., 1918.....	18	17 3½	By Attendances—Executive Meetings	8	15 3
„ Grant from Co-operative Union..	20	8 9	„ „ District Conferences..	11	18 8
„ Subscriptions from Societies	12	19 6	„ „ Sectional Conferences	9	1 2
„ Sale of Conference Paper	0	15 11	„ General Printing and Stationery..	8	9 0
„ Interest	0	10 0	„ Postages	3	3 9
			„ Secretary's Salary	5	3 0
			„ Grant to International Alliance..	1	1 0
			„ Sundry payments	1	4 4
			„ Auditor	0	10 6
			„ Scintineer's Expenses	0	5 0
			„ Balance in hand of Treasurer,		
			31st Dec., 1918.....	3	14 9½
Audited—					
C. STOKES.					
	£53	6 5½		£53	6 5½

A. J. FOULDES, Secretary.

No. 3.—LEICESTER.

Executive Committee.

Mr. S. Kemp (president), Leicester.	Mr. J. Gillett, Groby.
„ W. E. Pepper (secretary).	„ W. Everhard, Glenfield.
„ C. W. Broughton, Ashby-de-la-Zouch.	„ E. Wills, Glenfield Progress Boot Society.
„ H. Biggs, Enderby.	„ H. Ward, Anchor Boot Society.
„ W. H. Shepherd, Great Wigston.	„ T. Wilford, Anchor Education Committee.
„ J. Jordan, Barwell Ed. Committee.	„ S. H. Whiley, Leicester Small Holders' Society.
„ H. Cramphorn, Self-Help Boot Soc.	„ T. Gilbert, Wigston Hosiers.
„ W. W. Hill, Barwell.	„ J. Timson, Sperope Boot Soc.
„ S. Sutton, Hinckley.	„ C. Armston, Coalville Education Committee.
„ S. Drinkwater, Leicester Printers.	„ J. Hunt, Huncote.
„ A. Clayton, Leicester.	„ S. J. Mellor, Leicester Education Committee.
„ C. W. Brown, Coalville.	„ J. Abbott, Gt. Wigston Ed. Com.
„ A. Smith, Mountsorrel.	„ J. Maples, Leicester Men's Guild.
„ T. O. Unwin, Shepshed.	
Mrs. Widdowson, Leicester Women's Guild.	

We have pleasure in again presenting the annual report and balance sheet for the year ending 31st December, 1918.

During the year three conferences and three committee meetings have been held. The attendances at the conferences and the interest taken in

the subjects discussed, show that societies greatly appreciate this branch of our great movement.

The first conference was a joint one with the Coventry district at Hinckley, on Saturday, 16th February, when Mr. Millerchip, of the Central Board, introduced for discussion "A National Policy and Programme." A good discussion followed, the delegates returning home with much to think about and work for.

The second was held at the Co-operative Society, Leicester, on Saturday, 22nd July, when the new model rules for district associations were considered, and after discussion it was decided to adopt the same with some slight alterations. At this meeting a good report of Liverpool Congress was given by the association delegate, Mr. S. Drinkwater, and the officers of the association for the year were elected.

The third was held at the Anchor Boot Works, on Saturday, 28th September, when Mr. C. W. Brown introduced the survey committee's report dealing with the "Recommendations regarding the constitution of the Co-operative Union." This proved of great interest to the delegates, and it was evident this subject will provide plenty of interesting discussion wherever it is introduced.

Although societies in this district have been heavily handicapped in getting supplies, we are pleased to say reports to hand show that co-operation still holds its own in this district. Leicester Society shows an increase of £55,179, and Melton Mowbray an increase of £9,800. Hinckley reports steady increase in sales. This society has also purchased a farm of 248 acres, together with a good roomy house, and a large cheese and grain stores. They have also bought another 40 acres, which will be in their possession on the 25th of March, 1919. The committee have under consideration a cleansing, pasteurising, and cooling plant, and a small cheese plant for dealing with supplies in summer. Barwell Society during the past year have purchased 130 acres of land, also a site for new premises. Ashby Society reports that prospects for the future are bright. Mountsorrel Society have started a penny bank, and in nine months have received £1,000 deposits; their share capital and trade are also increasing rapidly. Enderby Society has just attained its jubilee, and reports that steady progress in trade, capital, and membership continues, Coalville Society are going strong, and the new education committee which this society started last year has carried out during the past winter a splendid programme of classes, lectures, and social activities. Burbage Society have opened a new branch at Wolvey, and are doing a nice trade, and report that the possibilities of the future look so well that they have purchased good premises of their own there. Great Wigston, Shepshed, and Huncote all report good progress, and now that hostilities in the great war have ceased we are hoping to see great advances made by co-operative societies in this district.

or four have made large purchases of land in areas adjacent to their own trade areas. The largest of these is the purchase by the Coventry Society of an estate of 972 acres at Wolvey, for £32,000. This comprises five farms, and the full possession of the whole will be in the hands of the society in March, 1919. The Lockhurst Lane Society have also a farm of 228 acres in the same locality, while the Rugby Society has bought the Great Paulteney Farm, Misterton, comprising 269 acres, for £5,900. The Nuneaton Society is also in possession of a small but very valuable estate on the borders of the town. Thus the total acreage forms a very considerable item in the assets of these societies, and the best results may be anticipated from these ventures. In other matters we have reason to be proud of the progress made.

The Lockhurst Lane Society have now a good reserve fund. Two sites have been secured for new branches, and one grocery business has been purchased.

Rugby Society have also progressed in trade and membership, and are well satisfied with their prospects after the four years' struggle.

Coventry has had a similar experience, and has every reason to be proud of the loyalty of its membership, as shown by the fact that its sales have arrived at the very high level of £1,000,000 (one million) per year. This, with the increase in membership, shows conclusively that the spirit of co-operation has stood the strain in a manner equal to the best hopes cherished at the advent of war.

Nuneaton and Atherstone, though suffering great disabilities and great setbacks, have still made headway and look forward to further extensions in the near future.

The District Hours and Wages Board has not been called into requisition except on one occasion, and we are hoping that the newer developments will make the work of these boards of much greater value to the societies involved.

The various guilds (men's and women's) have put in some splendid work, and the staunch support from the membership has been in no small measure due to their strenuous efforts.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1918 :—

Receipts.			Expenditure.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Cash in hand, 1st January, 1918 ..	0	15 3	By Attendances—Executive Meetings	3	18 1
„ Grant from Co-operative Union..	15	2 5	„ „ District Conferences.	12	10 11
„ Subscriptions from Societies	24	13 0	„ „ Sectional ..	1	17 11
			„ General Printing and Stationery..	17	0 0
			„ Postages	0	15 0
			„ Secretary's Salary	2	2 0
			„ Delegate to Congress	3	10 0
			„ „ H. and W. Board		
			„ (Rugby)	0	5 6
			„ Auditors	0	5 0
Audited—					
W. E. WOOD.					
ERNEST HILTON.					
„ Cash due to Treasurer, 1st Jan.,					
1918	1	13 9			
	£42	4 5		£42	4 5

JAMES CLAY, Secretary.

No. 5.—BIRMINGHAM.

Executive Committee.

Mr. Frank H. Bruff (Birmingham
Printers), secretary.
„ F. Cornforth, Birmingham Indus-
trial.
„ A. W. Critchley, Soho
„ J. Dunkley, Worcester.

Mr. A. Johnson, Dudley.
„ H. G. Mander, Alcester.
„ Wm. G. Shutt, Kidderminster
„ W. Summers, Ten Acres and Stirch-
ley.
„ H. Wilson, Mid. Woodworkers.

If any regrets are felt on the passing of the year 1918 they must certainly be quickly eclipsed by the hope that the present year will once more give to co-operation its proper opportunity and place in the field of both economic and ethical life. Half-stifled by an unsympathetic Government, hedged in by almost innumerable restrictions, and altogether forced into a most deplorable ineptitude to serve its members in the way it would have liked, we at last, as co-operators, may breathe the breath of renewed hope, and act with a determination such as we have never before possessed.

If one fact stands out more than another as a result of war-time co-operation in the Birmingham District, it is that our movement must be more militant. No half-apologetic attitude will do in the future. Let no society be content with anything less than carrying the war right into the enemy's camp, to bring co-operation within reach of all the people—rich and poor—all must be impregnated with the co-operative ideal, and so bring such success as to dwarf all our past efforts, and place co-operation in an unassailable position in our land.

Developments in the district during 1918 have, of course, been practically nil, with the notable exception of further agricultural acquisitions by the Worcester and Stirchley societies; we may, however, hope that time and thought has been utilised in planning wisely for the future.

Four conferences have been held. The first at Birmingham, on 16th February, when Professor Hall gave an exposition of the national co-operative policy and programme, demonstrating the need for further capital if co-operation is to secure the means of production. The second conference took place at Worcester, on 20th April, when Mr. J. Armstrong read Mr. D. McInnes's paper on "Farming by Distributive Societies." The third conference was held at Alcester, when Mr. Morris (Alcester Society) read Mr. Frank H. Bruff's paper on "International Co-operation"; and the fourth took place at Stirchley, on 2nd December, when Mr. Millerchip (Sectional Board) introduced the Survey Committee's report (trade section).

All the conferences were well attended, the debates were most interesting, and delegates left with renewed inspiration in their work for co-operation.

Now, let us go forward in 1919 determined to unify, to consolidate, and to extend the good work, each of us re-consecrating ourselves anew to the salvation of our people from need and despair.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1918:—

Receipts.			Expenditure.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Cash in hand, 1st January, 1918..	8	4 3	By Attendances—Executive Meetings	8	16 9
„ Grant from Co-operative Union..	21	16 1	„ „ District Conferences	13	10 8
„ Subscriptions from Societies	15	14 6	„ „ Sectional Conferences	1	0 6
			„ General Printing and Stationery.	6	11 0
			„ Postages.....	1	5 0
			„ Secretary's Salary	2	0 0
			„ Delegate to Congress.....	5	2 0
			„ Hours and Wages Board .	0	10 6
			„ Balance in hand 1st January, 1919	6	18 5
Audited—					
JOSEPH MILLINGTON.					
£45 14 10			£45 14 10		

FRANK H. BRUFF, Hon Secretary.

No. 6.—STAFFORD.

Executive Committee.

Mr. Horace Hilliard (chairman), Walsall.	Mr. G. Clifton, Tipton.
„ Henry Sanders (secretary).	„ A. Fulwood, Wolverhampton.
„ Joseph Clewlow, Stafford.	„ A. Campbell, Rugeley.
„ W. J. Harris, Wednesbury.	„ G. Powis, Cannock.
	„ A. Fidkin, Burton-on-Trent.

We have to report that the year 1918 has been a year full of difficulties for committees of societies, who have not always been able to provide for their ever-growing membership, but in spite of the difficulties, we have to report a grand year of advance.

Burton-on-Trent Society has during the year purchased 250 acres of land for £12,300; total share capital and penny bank deposits amount to £127,000.

Walsall Society has done remarkably well, their sales have increased during the year, and in conjunction with Cannock they have started to farm the 411 acres of land bought last year. They have purchased a property for extension at Walsall Wood, and have commenced a publicity department, having engaged their president, W. Abbotts, J.P., as propagandist agent.

Tamworth Society shows a good increase during the year; their farms have grown, amongst other things, 200 tons of potatoes, 500 tons mangolds and turnips, 740 quarters of wheat, 143 quarters of barley, 103 quarters of oats, reared 142 beasts, 207 lambs, 140 pigs, and supplied 18,532 gallons of milk.

Wolverhampton has done well, having made extension to their bakery and purchased property at Codsall, five miles from Wolverhampton, to start a branch.

Cannock Society have not, owing to shortness of supplies, made any increase during the year in sales.

Rugeley has increases in sales, share capital, and rationed customers. They have rented a bakery for production of confectionery to avoid excess

lighting and overtime pay, other than day work. Cash trading is in full working order, and appreciated by all.

The introduction of cash trading by the Stafford Society has enhanced its progress. We regret to have to record the retirement, caused by business reasons, of their president, Mr. Clewlow, who has served the society and the movement loyally and well for 13 years. Through times of trouble, and at periods when even disaster loomed ahead, his hand at the wheel has brought the society round, and it is particularly to be regretted that now, when success is assured, that he should retire and leave others to garner the results.

Wednesbury have increased their sales at West Bromwich branches 66 per cent.

Tipton are not able to cope with their trade; they require larger premises.

Mayfield is doing well in all branches. A great amount of propaganda work has been done by the large societies; the smaller ones seem very timid, fearing shortness of supplies.

We have held four committee meetings and four conferences during the year.

The first conference was at Burton-on-Trent, on Saturday, 29th June, Mr. H. B. Hicks, Burton-on-Trent, read his paper, "Some Thoughts on the Survey Committee's Report."

The second was at Cannock, on Saturday, 29th September, when Mr. T. Lewis, of Cannock, read a paper dealing with the "Recommendations contained in the Survey Committee's Report."

The third was at Walsall, on Saturday, 7th December, when Professor Hall gave a "Review of the Trade Report of the Survey Committee."

The fourth conference was held at Tipton, on Saturday, 22nd March, when Mr. J. Millington, of the Midland Board, gave an address on "Our Future Propaganda."

The conferences have all been well attended, and the discussions have been bright and breezy.

The Wages Board is dealing with the demand from the A.U.C.E.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1918:—

Receipts.			Expenditure.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Cash in hand, 1st January, 1918..	16	12 5	By Attendances Executive Meetings	8	4 10
„ Grant from Co-operative Union..	23	0 7	„ „ District Conferences..	12	15 1
„ Subscriptions from Societies	14	16 6	„ „ Sectional Conferences	0	15 4
			„ General Printing and Stationery.	1	6 0
			„ Postages	1	9 10
Audited—			„ Balance in hand of Treasurer,		
GEO. POWIS.			1st January, 1919.....	29	18 5
	£54	9 6		£54	9 6.

HENRY SANDERS, Secretary.

No. 7.—DERBY.

Executive Committee.

Mr. T. H. Edinborough (president),	Mr. James Davies, Long Eaton.
Long Eaton Printers.	„ D. Sharp, Langley Mill.
„ T. Leaman (secretary), Ripley.	„ Wm. Newton, Holloway.
„ G. Wilson, Derby.	„ Isaac Freshwater, Bolsover.
„ W. Wyld, Tibshelf.	„ T. A. Jolley, Derby Printers.
„ S. Page, Ilkeston.	„ S. Cartledge, Codnor Park.
„ T. Fearn, Ripley.	

We have pleasure in presenting our report of work accomplished in the Derby District during the year.

Three conferences have been held and some propaganda work done.

On 9th February, 1918, our first conference was held at Codnor Park, Mr. A. H. Jones, of Shrewsbury, introduced the subject of "Direct Representation in Parliament and on other Public Bodies."

The second conference took place at Ripley, on 31st August, when Mr. W. Warren (Central Board) introduced the subject for discussion, "Recommendations regarding the Constitution of the Co-operative Union."

The third conference was held at Ilkeston, on 30th November, when Mr. W. Fraser (member of the local society) introduced the subject, "Is there room for a Co-operative Political Party with the same aims and ideals as the National Labour Party?"

On 11th May a propaganda meeting was held at Holloway. We regret to state that this meeting did not prove quite the success that was anticipated, owing chiefly to the fact that Mr. A. H. Jones, of Shrewsbury, who was billed to speak, was unable to attend on account of being called away on war work. Members of the district executive and others gave short addresses. A concert was given, and members of the local committee thanked the association very heartily for the meeting.

A very successful propagandist meeting was held in the Town Hall, Wirksworth, on 28th September. Mr. T. H. Edinborough (chairman of the district) took the chair, and Mr. W. Warren, of Derby, gave a thoroughly good practical address, which was enjoyed and appreciated by a large and enthusiastic audience. We are greatly indebted to the Derby Society's Educational Committee for taking a concert party from Derby, which helped to make the meeting a real success without any expense whatever to the Union.

During the year the Lea and Holloway Society have adopted cash trading for all goods except coal, and have reduced debts owing by members by over £150, and have shown a large increase in trade and dividend. The result of a special appeal to members to invest their capital has been very successful.

Bolsover Society during the latter part of 1917 and the early part of 1918 had been considerably inconvenienced by the shortage of supplies.

but the society took energetic steps to get this remedied by calling a meeting of other working-class organisations, and presented their claims in the proper quarter, with the result that better supplies were forthcoming.

Tibshelf Society continues to make steady progress, and are only waiting for a favourable opportunity to extend their premises to enable them to do a much larger trade. They are doing excellent propaganda work in meetings and lectures. Politically, they have become allied to the National Labour Party, and are working for representation on parish and district councils.

Codnor Park also have increases in sales, membership, and finance, and are extending the principles of the movement by meetings and lectures.

The farming operations of the Long Eaton Society are eminently successful, about 100 acres having been purchased last year, and the profits on their Home and Draycott farms for the year have been over £1,000. The society is affiliated with the Labour Party for political purposes. An important educational step has been the establishment of two scholarships, value £25 each, tenable at Holyoake House as a memorial to the late Mr. Samuel Butler, formerly manager of the society and a member of the Sectional Board.

During the year the Ripley Society has made large increases in trade, membership, and capital, while the educational committee continue their propaganda work with success. The society recently adopted the collective life assurance scheme.

Long Eaton Printing Society has been greatly handicapped through loss of staff during the war, but continues its successful and useful work in the district with every prospect of increased trade now their men have returned. Derby Printers also report a very successful year.

Ilkeston have had a successful year, and are anticipating big developments in peace time.

Derby continues to make large increases; they have also adopted the collective life assurance scheme during the year.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1918:—

Receipts.			Expenditure.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Cash in hand, 1st January, 1918..	4	9 4	By Attendances-Executive Meetings	2	17 0
„ Grant from Co-operative Union..	17	10 10	„ „ District Conferences	10	6 5
„ Subscriptions from Societies	7	1 0	„ „ Special Propaganda	4	6 8
„ Dividend from Printers.....	0	0 6	„ „ Deputations to societies	0	5 0
			„ „ General Printing and Stationery.	1	15 6
			„ „ Postages	0	18 0
			„ „ Secretary's Salary	2	0 0
			„ „ Congress expenses	3	12 6
			„ „ Auditing	0	2 6
			„ „ Balance in hand of Treasurer,		
			31st December, 1918	2	18 1
Audited—					
T. A. JOLLEY.					
W. FRASER.					
£29 1 8			£29 1 8		

T. LEAMAN, Secretary.

No. 8.—NOTTINGHAM.

Executive Committee.

Mr. Frank Hays (president), Jacksdale, Notts.	Mr. W. Blood, Ruddington.
„ S. H. Brown (secretary), Nottingham	„ G. A. Arnold, Southwell.
„ E. Forsyth (editor of <i>Record</i>), Bulwell.	„ J. Reeves, Kimberley.
	„ S. Peach, Selston.
	„ W. Sharp, Kirkby-in-Ashfield.

The Kirkby-in-Ashfield Manufacturers are still forging ahead. During the year the sales of this society have for the first time reached six figures. A considerable extension of premises is being made for the manufacture of knitted gloves, which is a departure into yet another branch of the hosiery trade.

The Nottingham Printers are also making progress, the sales being considerably above those of the previous year.

Two notable features in the retail trade are very gratifying. Radcliffe has cleared its adverse balance and instituted a reserve fund. Keyworth has made a satisfactory increase in trade and consolidated its position.

We desire to acknowledge our indebtedness for the excellent work done by our old friend, Mr. E. L. Griffiths, in a week's canvass at Keyworth early in November, which was a prelude to a propaganda meeting on the following Saturday. This meeting was a pronounced success; a charming course of music and songs was performed by a trio from the Nottingham Societies' Choral Association, and Mr. G. Harris, of Lincoln, gave a stirring address.

A serious fire occurred at the central premises of the Mansfield Society, causing considerable loss and much inconvenience. The surrounding societies rendered useful help in finding a portion of stock to tide over the immediate difficulty.

The Bulwell Society, acting on the suggestion of the Whitley report, have formed an advisory board, consisting of four employees and four from the committee of management. The Nottingham Society has a similar arrangement. Both are working satisfactorily.

The other societies in the district are making up the leeway caused by food shortage, food control, and other restrictions, and are progressing notwithstanding the many difficulties which have been placed in their path.

On 29th and 30th June, a two-days school was held in Nottingham, which proved successful. Mr. W. J. Douse was the teacher, and a useful discussion on the political situation elicited some valuable information on the new Registration Act.

A one-day school was held later at Netherfield, the district secretary taking charge; the subject brought out many interesting facts and opinions.

The Nottingham Society have made a valuable addition to their agricultural holdings, by the purchase of an adjoining farm and extensive buildings, in all about 63 acres.

Eight executive meetings have been held with an average attendance of seven. We regret to record the death of Mr. Alfred Wyld, J.P., of East-

No. 9.—LINCOLN.

Executive Committee.

Mr. Wm. Coulson (chairman), Lincoln.	Mr. W. F. Johnston, Newark.
„ E. Hart (secretary), Grimsby.	„ W. Parkes, Retford.
„ G. Pywell, Peterborough.	„ J. P. Gosling, Boston.
„ A. Cordiner, Grimsby.	„ W. T. Cadmore, Spalding.
„ W. Barnes, Grantham.	„ D. McInnes, Lincoln.
„ F. H. Brumpton, Gainsborough.	

With the dawning of peace, a new era is opening out before us in which co-operators will have a large part to play, and the opportunities for development and extension will be considerable, both in the distributive and productive societies. Consequent upon the extreme shortage of stocks in all branches of trade, our movement should make a determined effort to secure its full share, and as continental products are likely to be curtailed, surely there is a golden opportunity of development by the Co-operative Wholesale Society and the productive societies hitherto undreamt of.

The regular supply of milk is a serious question for many societies, and it is a pleasure to be able to record the efforts of several societies in this district successfully to overcome the problem, and by securing farms suitable for dairying to ensure a plentiful supply for the whole of their ever-increasing body of members, in addition to providing them with an abundant supply of vegetables, &c. During the year under review three societies in this district have a total of 1,596 acres, divided as follows: Peterborough, 286 acres; Lincoln, 620 acres; and Gainsborough, 690 acres. The advantages gained by members of societies owning their own farms are almost unlimited, not the least being the opportunities of employment for a number of their own members.

This year has witnessed a marvellous increase in membership and sales by nearly all the societies in this district, which, following the expansion noted in previous years, gives evidence of a spending power superior to anything hitherto recorded in the movement. Building operations throughout the district have been suspended during the year, but with the signing of peace many societies are anxious to extend their premises to provide better accommodation for their rapidly expanding business.

Four conferences and one executive meeting have been held during the year:—

Date.	Place.	Subject.	Writer or Reader.
1918.			
16th Feb...	Retford	Foodstuffs and Rationing	Mr. W. Parkes.
1st June ..	Peterboro'gh	Items Co-operators should remember after the war.	Mr. L. Peake.
31st Aug...	Lincoln	Recommendations re the Constitution of the Co-operative Union.	Mr. G. Harris.
30th Nov...	Boston	Co-operation and Reconstruction.	Mr. G. Christmas.

Notwithstanding the drawbacks of decreased railway facilities and increased fares, the meetings were all well attended, and the discussion based on the various subjects was interesting and well maintained. We are of opinion that by careful selection and preparation of the subjects to be discussed, the conferences will become a still greater force in the co-operative life of the community.

The educational committees and women's and men's guilds have all been quietly paving the way for more extended operations in the new life we are sure to experience in the near future.

We are pleased to chronicle the success of the fish department of the Co-operative Wholesale Society. Although only recently established, its development is already very great, and its future success assured. Grimsby is naturally the chief source of supply, and we look for an enormous extension in the future.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1918:—

Receipts.			Expenditure.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Cash in hand, 1st Jan., 1918.....	9	19 5	By Attendances-Executive Meetings	5	0 3
„ Grant from Co-operative Union..	28	7 10	„ District Conferences	28	16 10
„ Subscriptions from Societies	19	6 0	„ General Printing and Stationery.	0	15 3
			„ Postages	0	17 4
			„ Secretary's salary	2	0 0
			„ Delegate to Congress	5	17 6
			„ Balance in hand of Treasurer, 31st Dec., 1918	14	6 1
Audited—					
JOHN LISTER.					
	£57	13 3		£57	13 3

EDWIN HART, Hon. Secretary.

No. 10.—SHROPSHIRE AND MID-WALES.

Executive Committee.

Mr. E. Evans (chairman), Oswestry.	Mr F. H. North, Shrewsbury.
„ E. Griffiths (secretary), Shrewsbury.	„ J. Pessall, Oakengates.
„ B. J. Wilkinson, Ironbridge.	„ T. Morris, St. Martin's.
„ J. R. Williams, Chirk.	„ D. Morgan, Newtown.

We have pleasure in presenting our fourth report of the work accomplished in the Shropshire and Mid-Wales area.

BUSINESS PROGRESS.

Despite the adverse circumstances in consequence of the period under consideration being one of most acute difficulty with regard to supplies of foodstuffs and other necessities of life, it is gratifying to be able to report all round progress from a business point of view. Without exception, every society in the district has largely increased its trade and capital and considerably augmented its membership, with the result that in total form the statistics for the whole of the district will reveal a much higher percentage of increase not only on the previous year, but also per member and per head of population, than has hitherto been recorded.

CASH TRADING.

Quite a feature of the past year is the number of societies which have either completely or partially adopted the "cash principle" of trading. In each case, instead of an expected decrease in trade being recorded, a large increase has been secured. Other societies are also contemplating a change over from the "credit" to the "cash" principle, and efforts are being made by the executive to induce every society in the district to adopt cash methods as far as retail trading is concerned.

CONFERENCES.

Three conferences have been held during this year as follows:—

Date.	Place.	Subject.	Introduced by
1918.			
22nd June.	Ironbridge .	Co-operative Societies and Food Production.	Mr. W. Roberts, J.P.
28th Sept. .	Oswestry ..	Constitution of the Co-operative Union.	Mr. C. A. W. Saxton.
1919.			
4th Jan. ..	Shrewsbury.	Survey Committee's Report relating to Trade.	Mr. W. B. Bell.

The conferences have been well attended, and much good has accrued to societies as a result of the subjects discussed.

PROPAGANDA.

It is with regret that we are unable to report the operation of a strenuous campaign of propaganda during the period under consideration. Such having been a feature of past reports, a temporary relaxation in this respect, due to the operation of war-time conditions, while regrettable was inevitable. Bad railway facilities and restrictions on motor service rendered transport absolutely impossible in such a purely rural area as Shropshire and Montgomeryshire. Under such circumstances only three meetings have been held during the year, but with the advent of better facilities it is hoped shortly to institute a very active campaign reaching from one end of the district to the other.

THE DISTRICT MAGAZINE.

Notwithstanding the difficulties which have been experienced in the printing and publishing trades, the association has been able to maintain the publication of the district's quarterly *Review*. For another year its issue has certainly attained the very commendable object of creating an effective connecting link between all societies in the district. Financially, it has again proved to be self-supporting, and this, combined with its literary value, and the useful purpose which it serves, is adequate compensation for the time and labour involved in its production.

HOURS AND WAGES BOARD.

During the year two meetings of the District Hours and Wages Board have been held, at which consideration has been given to an application of the A.U.C.E. for a further increase in the rates of war bonus paid throughout the district. The application affected no fewer than twelve societies, and it is gratifying to report that a satisfactory settlement was arrived at.

AFTER-WAR DEVELOPMENT.

It is most encouraging to note how societies are preparing for after-war development. The Shrewsbury Society has purchased a magnificent site in the main thoroughfare of the town with a view to erecting new central premises as soon as circumstances permit. The Oswestry Society has purchased extensive property adjoining its present central premises, and it is proposed to rebuild present and create new departments of business at an early date. The Oakengates Society has commenced new departments in the direction of millinery and dressmaking, and in addition has acquired a small holding of considerable acreage with a view of extensive development when normal conditions are restored.

NEW AREAS.

Several societies are contemplating the invasion of non-co-operative territory as soon as an extension of delivery service is practicable, and at Market Drayton it is proposed to establish a branch of the Whitchurch Society. The establishment of separate societies in at least two instances is also under consideration.

REPRESENTATION ON PUBLIC BODIES.

This question has received earnest consideration for some time past, and, during the year, representation has been secured at Shrewsbury and Oswestry on the respective town councils. In connection with the forthcoming elections an endeavour will be made to secure seats not only on several borough and rural councils, but also on the Shropshire County Council.

Such an effort is imperative if the workers are to secure any representation at all, as in such an area as Shropshire and Mid-Wales there are many places that such can only be accomplished through the instrumentality of the co-operative society.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1918 :—

Receipts.			Expenditure.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Cash in hand, 1st January, 1918..	15	7 0	By Attendances, Executive Meetings	18	8 7
„ Grant from Co-operative Union..	64	5 3	„ „ District Conferences..	13	13 4
„ Subscriptions from Societies	19	7 0	„ „ Sectional Conferences	1	18 2
„ Societies' Contributions towards			„ Deputations to Societies	6	17 11
Propaganda Expenses	6	0 0	„ General Printing and Stationery.	6	6 6
			„ Postages	1	0 6
			„ Propaganda Expenses—		
			Meetings at Oswestry, Don-		
			nington, and Aberystwyth	31	15 11
			„ Delegate to Congress.....	4	0 0
			„ Hours & Wages Board Expenses	0	15. 6
			„ Balance in hand of Treasurer,		
			31st December, 1918	20	2 10
£104 19 3			£104 19 3		

Audited—
W. F. HUNT.

QUARTERLY CO-OPERATIVE "REVIEW" ACCOUNT, 1918.

Receipts.			Expenditure.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Balance, 1st January, 1918	1	9 3	By Cost of Printing and General		
„ Advertisements	49	15 3	„ Production	44	7 0
„ Sale of Blocks	0	17 6	„ Postage and Carriage	2	4 0
„ Printers' Dividend	2	10 0			
				46	11 0
Audited—			„ Balance, 31st December, 1918....	8	1 0
W. F. HUNT.					
	£54	12 0		£54	12 0

EDWIN GRIFFITHS, Secretary.

CO-OPERATIVE CHORAL ASSOCIATION.

Mr. J. Wright (president), Annesley Woodhouse.	Mr. C. Marshall, Long Eaton,	} Joint Hon. Secretaries.
„ T. Mather (vice-president), Lincoln.	„ T. H. Edinborough,	
„ J. Shelton (treasurer), Ilkeston.	Long Eaton,	

The unqualified success which has attended our festivals during the war period was fully maintained at Leicester, where the senior contests took place on 19th October. Choir and solo entries alike were quite as numerous as on any former occasion, and the standard of tests and singing upheld the reputation achieved by the Association. The lamented death of Dr. McNaught, the appointed adjudicator, only a few days prior to the festival, was a disappointment and grief which overshadowed the pleasure such a gathering brings; but relief from anxiety was afforded in the presence of Mr. Granville Humphreys, who so kindly came to act in the circumstances. A few words from his report may be quoted as showing the great value of the musical training which the Association encourages. The judge says:—"I am pleased to be able to speak in terms of unreserved praise of your last festival. The tests were admirably chosen, and the singing throughout the day was of a very high order. All the choral singing was excellent, many of the choirs indeed displaying remarkable technical ability and imaginative power."

The committee have already arranged for the revival of the junior contest, and trust the entries will ensure as successful a festival at Derby on 10th May, as has been the experience hitherto.

With the coming of a world's peace there is every prospect of an extension of the Association's work; the contests for the past few years have become more and more difficult to deal with in the one day's festival, and undoubtedly with the return of male voices there will be an accession of senior choirs. The addition of the class for ladies' voices has proved most popular, and no doubt the desire for other classes will be met by the committee.

CHARLES MARSHALL,

THOS. H. EDINBOROUGH,

Joint Hon. Secretaries.

MIDLAND SECTION CO-OPERATIVE EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEES' ASSOCIATION.

Executive Committee.

Mr. T. Hackett (president), Bournville.	Mr. R. Naylor, Sutton-in-Ashfield.
„ E. Webb (treasurer), Northampton.	Mrs. Jutson, Peterborough.
Miss C. A. Woolley (hon. sec.), Leicester.	Mr. W. Jackson, Tamworth.
Mr. A. Wyld, Eastwood.	Mrs. Dewsbury, Walsall.
Mrs. F. Stein, Birmingham.	Mr. Millington, Birmingham.
Mr. W. E. Wood, Coventry.	„ H. H. Howkins, Wigston Magna.
„ G. Stanton, South Wigston.	„ M. Armson, Ibstock.
„ H. J. Potter, Kettering.	Mrs. Unsworth, Derby.
	„ Biggs, Coventry.

The work of the association has been very successful during the past year, and the executive feel gratified because of the increased interest shown in education by the educational and guild committees in the section.

Local week-end schools are the outcome of our schools held at Woodbrook and Worcester. We feel, too, the four conferences with the subjects following through the year, have been of great help to all, viz., Educational Reconstruction, Political Reconstruction, Industrial Reconstruction, and a résumé of the year's work taken at the annual meeting. All these, we feel, have helped to create an interest in the work of the association.

Classes have greatly increased in the section, both for children and adults.

A circular, advocating the work of the association, and the desirability of all committees, both educational and guilds, becoming affiliated to it, has been distributed to every society and guild in the section which does not belong to us; and we hope by this means to greatly increase both interest and membership in the Midland Educational Association.

The executive feels there is yet a great deal to be done before we reach the desired goal, but undoubtedly progress has been made during the past year, and with the hearty support and co-operation of all affiliated bodies, the association confidently look forward to even better results in the future. One way to arouse interest and enthusiasm in education, is for more members of educational committees and guilds to attend the week-end and summer schools. Coming in contact with other educationalists, many hints and suggestions will be gained to help on the local work, while the thought of meeting in fellowship the same students another year, and being able to express our appreciation of the knowledge gained, and how far we have been able to use that knowledge for the good of others, will certainly be an incentive to all alike to do their best.

Five committee meetings have been held during the year.

The annual meeting which was held at Tamworth was well attended.

Mr. George Stanton gave an address on "The Work of the Association during the Coming Year." He stated that, if we are to make progress, we

must be fully alive to all the new activities of the movement. We must get more in touch with the rank and file.

The second conference was held at Woodbrooke, the attendance being a record one.

At the commencement, the President moved "That the conference having received the sad news of the death of Mr. Alfred Wyld and Mr. George Stanton, two members of the executive committee, tenders its utmost sympathy to their relatives and friends, and expresses its profound sense of the very great loss our movement has sustained by their death." This was carried by members quietly rising.

Professor Herbert Wood, M.A., Warden of Woodbrooke, gave a most interesting and instructive address on "Reconstruction in Education." Education, he said, comes through contact or association—national association was something we should all strive for. The life which nations should live was that of comradeship and friendship.

The Week-end School at Woodbrooke was held from July 12th to 15th, and was in every way a great success, the pleasing feature being that many students of the previous year were again present, clearly showing not only the value of the school, but that the effort of the association was appreciated. On Friday evening the students were welcomed by the "Warden," Prof. W. G. Wood, M.A., and by Councillor T. Hackett, president of the association.

The principal lecturer was Mr. Rennie Smith, B.Sc. The subjects taken were: "Some Thoughts on Politics," "Social and Economic Problems," and "The State in Relation to Industry." Eighty-three full time and eight visiting students attended.

The second Week-end School was held at the King's School, Worcester, the lectures being given in the lecture-room, which is part of the old monastery. Mr. T. W. Mercer, organising secretary of the Plymouth Education Committee, gave four lectures on "New Ideas in Co-operation." Canon Wilson, Sub-Dean of Worcester Cathedral, gave a lecture on the "Educational Programme issued by the Co-operative Union, and Canon Chappel spoke on the "History of Worcester and its Traditions." A visit to the Cathedral on Sunday afternoon, conducted by the Dean, Dr. Moore Ede and Canon Chappel, was thoroughly enjoyed by all. We are greatly indebted to Canon Chappel for the interest he personally took in the school; 62 students attended.

The third conference was held at Worcester, in connection with the Week-end School, when an address was given by Mr. Frank Spires, Birmingham, on "Political Reconstruction." After stating the reasons which forced co-operators into "Politics," he outlined his idea of Reconstruction after the war. He contended that co-operators were eminently fitted to enter Parliament, and asked the co-operative movement to support Labour, and Labour would support co-operation, because our principles stand for democratic control.

The fourth conference was held at Coventry, when delegates from all parts of the section attended. Mr. H. J. Potter, vice-president of the association, gave an address on "Industrial Reconstruction." He divided his

subject into three parts. (1) Pre-War Period, dealing with conditions of Industry before August, 1914. "Trade Union Developments," "Strikes, National and Local," "Wages, Hours, and Conditions," (2) War Period. "Trade Union Rights Allowed to Lapse," "Calling up of Men," "Temporary Workers Asked For," "Women in Industry," &c. (3) Post-War Period. "Return of Men to Civil Life," "Dislocation of Industry," "Women's Labour Problem," "Government Action," &c. A good discussion followed. A resolution was carried "Protesting against the attempt now being made to introduce military training into our schools."

A special conference was convened for chairmen and secretaries of educational and women's guild committees, at Northampton, when the subject introduced was, "How can Educational Committees, the Guilds, and the Association best work together to secure real progress." (1) Constitution, as outlined in the Survey Report, opened by Mr. E. Wood (Coventry). (2) "General Policy," opened by Councillor T. Hackett (Ten Acres and Starchley). There was a good discussion, centring chiefly round the work amongst young people. A Week-end School was held at which there was a good attendance.

Councillor T. Hackett, our representative on the Central Education Committee of the Co-operative Union, has given some interesting reports of the work being carried on at Holyoake House.

Our sincere thanks are due to the *Co-operative News*, for the sympathetic way in which it reports our conferences and week-end schools.

The committee welcome those societies and guilds who have joined the association during the past year, and hope the benefit of unity in our work will be helpful to all.

In conclusion, we all deeply deplore the loss of Mr. Alf. Wyld and Mr. Geo. Stanton (two members of the executive), during the year. Mr. Alf. Wyld was treasurer when there was little to treasure, but he was always hopeful of ultimate success. His personality was genial and bright, and he made one feel how much he had at heart the work of the association. Mr. Geo. Stanton was a younger member in the work, and his early death will be a loss to the whole movement.

The following is the financial statement for the year ending March, 1919:—

Receipts.			Expenditure.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To District No. 1.....	3	5 0	By Committee Meetings	8	11 3
" District No. 2.....	7	12 6	" Conferences	20	11 9
" District No. 3.....	12	12 0	" Secretary's Honorarium	5	0 0
" District No. 4.....	4	8 6	" Co-op. Union representative (fare) ..	3	3 4
" District No. 5.....	8	19 0	" Deputations	1	10 6
" District No. 6.....	4	12 0	" Printing and Stationery	14	5 5
" District No. 7.....	11	6 6	" Postage, Secretary	8	2 6
" District No. 8.....	8	9 0	" " Treasurer	0	8 11
" District No. 9.....	10	8 0			
" Dividend	0	2 6			
" Refund of Fare.....	0	16 0			
" Payments in Advance	6	15 0			
			„ Balance	43	17 7
Income for the year	79	6 0			
Balance, March, 1918	26	6 8			
	£105	11 3			

Audited—A. H. HORNSEY.

£105 11 3

(3) NORTHERN SECTION.

During the Congress year twelve meetings of the Sectional Board have been held, the attendance of members being as under :—

	Present.	Absent.	Possible.
Mr. J. C. Aiston	12	—	12
„ G. Bedford	10	2	12
„ J. Davison	9	3	12
„ S. Galbraith, M.P.	6	6	12
„ W. R. Rae	12	—	12
„ *G. Riddle	9	—	9
„ W. Scott	10	2	12

* Appointed in place of Mr. Murdoch, who did not seek re-election. In cases of absence satisfactory reasons were given.

During the year nine meetings of the Sectional Hours and Wages Board have been held, at which various questions and disputes regarding wages and related matters have been dealt with, attendances being as follows :—

	Present.	Absent.	Possible.
Mr. J. C. Aiston	8	1	9
„ G. Bedford	6	3	9
„ J. Davison	5	4	9
„ S. Galbraith, M.P.	3	6	9
„ W. R. Rae	5	4	9
„ G. Riddle	8	—	8
„ W. Scott	8	1	9

HON. MEMBERS.

Mr. H. R. Bailey, J.P. Mr. W. Crooks, J.P. Mr. J. Murdoch.

At the first meeting of the Board, Congress year 1918-19, held on 1st June, 1918, the following appointments were made :—

Chairman of the Section Mr. Wm. Scott.

Representatives on the—

United Board Messrs. J. Davison and S. Galbraith, M.P.

Educational Committee Mr. W. R. Rae.

Sectional Office Committee—

Messrs. Aiston, Bedford, Riddle, and Scott.

The year which has passed will, in the nature of things, be a memorable one in the annals of Northern co-operation. There can be little room for doubt that in its earlier stages co-operators were the victims of a subtle and unfair method of treatment in the matter of obtaining supplies, and the difficulties of administering the affairs of societies under the stress of war conditions were accentuated by the irritation and dissatisfaction which consequently prevailed.

Owing to various reasons, among which was undoubtedly the voicing in the proper quarter of the disabilities under which co-operation laboured, matters in this respect gradually improved, and it is a compliment to those responsible for the management of societies, a tribute to the inherent economic soundness of the principles upon which the movement is founded, and a prophecy of the ultimate universal triumph of co-operation, to say that, speaking generally, the societies in the section have stood the test of these terrible years and emerged stronger, more prominent and virile than ever.

There is, perhaps, neither unmixed good or evil in human affairs, and one of the good effects of the evils of war has been that the stress of conditions war created has, in many respects, served to bring societies in the section into closer union and been responsible for a much needed development of the co-operative spirit. The Sectional Board regard the general position in the section as encouraging, and have confidence in the ability of societies to meet the great demands the immediate future will assuredly make upon them.

A great opportunity now presents itself to a united movement. The cloud of war has lifted, but the old order is in ruins and "The earth restive confronts a new era." Competition ends in death, co-operation must give life to the new world.

CO-OPERATIVE EMPLOYEES AND MILITARY SERVICE. REGIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

During the earlier months of last year considerable uneasiness prevailed in co-operative circles owing to the increasing demands made upon employees of societies by the National service authorities. In a large number of cases societies were being crippled in their efforts to meet the demands made upon them by an ever-growing membership and a rapidly increasing trade owing to the serious depletion in their staffs. This feeling of uneasiness was intensified by the impression which existed that the machinery in operation for dealing with the question of liability for military service was, by its nature, such as to place co-operative societies at a disadvantage.

This matter was taken up by the Parliamentary Committee of the Co-operative Congress and made the subject of negotiation with the Ministry of National Service. The result was that in June, 1918, an arrangement was come to for the setting up of advisory committees in the various regions throughout the country for the purpose of considering the cases of pivot men engaged by co-operative societies in food distribution with a view of affording protection (without the necessity of repeated applications to Tribunals) to men who were considered indispensable. In accordance with this arrangement

a Regional Committee was appointed for the North, and consisted of two representatives of the Ministry of National Service and two co-operative representatives. The co-operative representatives were Mr. J. Magin, secretary of the Ashington Industrial Society, and the Sectional secretary.

Ninety-six societies sent in lists and altogether 603 names of pivot men were submitted for consideration. The committee met at stated intervals at the Regional Headquarters, Newcastle-on-Tyne, and the co-operative representatives desire to state that throughout they were met with great courtesy and consideration by the representatives of the Ministry. Permission was readily granted by them for the co-operative representatives to obtain and put in any information additional to that contained on the lists which was deemed necessary, and also to arrange, if desired, for the attendance of representatives from societies who were familiar with all the local circumstances, and who could be called upon when necessary to give evidence and answer questions on the cases being dealt with. It was largely owing to such facilities that the work of the committee was completed well within the time allotted by the Ministry.

When it is remembered that of the 603 names submitted only three were put down for active service and 17 for substitution, that the responsibility for finding efficient substitutes was undertaken by the Ministry of National Service, and that as a matter of fact suitable substitutes were not found, the results of the committee's work must be considered as eminently satisfactory.

After the Regional Committee, as such, had completed the task allotted to it, and owing largely to the complicated nature of the machinery in operation, a considerable amount of work was caused by the delay in the issue of certificates to those recommended for protection, and the receipt of calling-up notices by a large number of men to whom recommendations applied. Those cases were dealt with by the Sectional office with satisfactory results.

NON-PIVOTAL MEN.

During, and after, the period when the Regional Advisory Committee was at work a curious situation involving a considerable amount of anxiety and confusion developed. It was obvious that the business of co-operative societies could not be carried on with pivot men only. There were other men engaged in food distribution quite as indispensable and, in the interests of the community, as much entitled to protection. Before the appointment of the Regional Committee the assistance of the Ministry of Food was frequently invoked in the cases of men coming before Tribunals whose services were considered essential to the efficient distribution of food. For some time after the appointment of the Regional Committee any assistance from the Food Ministry in the cases of non-pivotal men was almost impossible to obtain on account of the impression that co-operative cases could only be dealt with by the Regional Committee.

As a matter of fact that committee was barred from dealing with any other than the cases of pivotal men, and as a consequence of this confusion and for the time being non-pivotal men were left to the mercy of tribunals.

After considerable discussion and negotiation, however, an offer was made to the Sectional office that if a committee of three representatives of co-operative societies was set up to consider the cases of non-pivotal men the Ministry of Food would consider any recommendations made by that committee and, if found satisfactory, would in turn be prepared to make representations to the Ministry of National Service.

That offer was accepted and Mr. Revell, general manager of the Newcastle Society, and Mr. J. Magin, secretary of Ashington Industrial Society, consented to act in conjunction with the sectional secretary. For some time, and as occasion required, the committee, together with a representative from the office of the Food Ministry, met in the sectional office to make recommendations with regard to cases coming before the tribunals and the results were very satisfactory. Eventually, and at the request of the Food Ministry, it was decided, in order to save time, to request societies to send in lists of men who were liable to be called up for service, so that the whole of the cases could be dealt with and recommendations made to the Ministry of National Service at once in regard to them. In response to this request societies sent in lists containing 204 names, and these cases were in course of preparation for presentation to the Ministry of Food when the welcome news came that hostilities had ceased. It is needless to say that these lists were then put aside with the fervent prayer that the world might never again be faced with circumstances which rendered such work necessary.

CONFERENCES.

During the Congress year 1918-19 four conferences have been held:—

The Annual Sectional Conference was held at Carlisle on 27th April, 1918, and in addition to the ordinary business had before it two special resolutions which were unanimously agreed to. The first resolution affirmed the necessity of greater uniformity of method in dealing with wages questions and related matters, and with a view to that end urged every society in the section to affiliate with the Wages Advisory Committee of its own district. The second resolution drew attention to the decision of the Swansea Congress on Parliamentary representation, and urged societies to adopt the scheme issued by the Co-operative Union, which included the formation of local councils. It further urged the necessity on the part of societies to promote the method laid down by the United Board for the development of such propaganda as would engender that political consciousness within the movement which is essential to success. It is gratifying that to a very considerable extent both resolutions have been acted upon by societies in the section.

GROUP CONFERENCE.

An interesting conference took place in Newcastle on 27th July, 1918. In the beginning of 1917 an attempt was made to secure greater cohesion among societies by what became known as the group system. Several districts were divided into convenient groups of contiguous societies, and the managers of the respective societies in each group met at regular intervals for the

purpose of collectively discussing matters of business and generally assisting each other. Representatives of the various committees had also periodical conferences with the managers, and for a considerable time the results were good. The constant and increasing strain put upon managers by war conditions, however, made it difficult for regular meetings to be kept up, and in the most of cases these groups ceased to meet. No. 1 Group, No. 2 District, which comprises seven societies in the Tyneside area have, however, continued their meetings, and at the request of the Joint Committee of this group the Sectional Board convened a special conference for the purpose of giving the members of that committee an opportunity of bringing before societies the advantages of the system. Mr Scott, chairman of the Sectional Board, presided, and short addresses were given on "The Origin and Objects," "Work done by," and "Business" and "Ethical aspects of the group by members of the committee.

One of the results of this conference is that other societies are gradually taking this matter up and the original group, which consisted of seven societies, now numbers seventeen. The Sectional Board feel that as a means of helping societies to a better understanding of each other, the creation of a wider outlook, and the fostering of that spirit of unity so essential to the further success of co-operative activities, the group idea is worthy of consideration by societies in the section.

SECTIONAL CONFERENCE ON WAGES.

An important conference of representatives of societies in the section was held in Newcastle on 21st September, at which Mr. Scott, chairman of the Sectional Board, presided. Considerable confusion and consequent unrest for a time prevailed in the section owing to the varied claims being made upon societies for increases in the amount of war wage paid to employees. At least four different rates were being claimed at one and the same time throughout the section, and management committees were in a quandary how to proceed in dealing with the matter. Attempts had been made to secure an approach to uniformity in the scale of remuneration paid by societies to their employees, and district wages committees were directing their efforts to this end. It became increasingly clear, however, that unless the work of these committees was co-ordinated, and the societies in the section as a whole agreed upon a common basis, the chaotic condition which prevailed would continue. The Sectional Board issued an appeal to societies for a common understanding and a common policy in regard to this important question, and with a view to giving societies an opportunity of arriving at such a result convened the conference. In the meantime, advisory committees in each district were requested to ascertain the attitude and opinions of societies with regard to the whole position. On this information coming to hand a joint meeting of the Sectional Hours and Wages Board and secretaries of the advisory committees was convened and recommendations drawn up for submission to the conference. Those recommendations were submitted to societies and amendments or additions invited. The recommendations, amendments, and additions were

then sent out to societies and formed the agenda for the conference. This conference was a pronounced success, and was remarkable for the smoothness and rapidity with which a large agenda of business was got through. Definite instructions had been given by societies to their representatives, and a card vote was taken which showed that 84 per cent of the voting strength of the section was represented.

This conference has had important results. Unity of action and uniformity of method has been attained to a degree hitherto unknown in the section, and a confused situation fraught with sinister possibilities to a large extent cleared up. This result will undoubtedly be in the interests of societies and employees alike. One of the decisions of the conference giving District Wages Boards the power of direct negotiation will, in the opinion of the Sectional Board, necessitate a review of the position of the present Sectional Hours and Wages Board.

CONFERENCE ON TRANSPORT.

On 18th November, 1918, a conference of representatives of societies in the counties of Northumberland and Durham was held in Newcastle. This conference was convened at the request of the Area Transport Committee with a view to discussing the possibility of greater co-ordination of transport between societies. The conference was well attended and was addressed by three members of the Road Transport Board. The discussion was interesting, inasmuch as the perennial question of overlapping between societies was involved. The speakers paid a high tribute to co-operative organisation and pleaded for societies themselves to formulate a scheme to secure economy in transport. It was stated by the divisional officer of the Road Transport Board that Newcastle traders were taking up the whole question of transport with a view to thorough re-organisation, and suggested that it was up to a powerful organisation like the co-operative movement to lead the way. The conference with practical unanimity approved the following resolution, viz. :—

“ That this conference of representatives of societies in the counties of Northumberland and Durham, having heard the statement made by representatives of the Road Transport Board, and recognising the importance of the question, agrees to bring the matter before the several management committees here represented and the Sectional Board, with a view to the arrangement of conferences between groups of societies in suitable areas for the purpose of mutually discussing and deciding upon the best means of securing co-ordination and consequent economy in road transport.”

The altered conditions following upon the cessation of hostilities have—viewed from the standpoint of the Road Transport Board—to some extent modified the urgency of this question, yet it presents features in the relationship between societies which would well repay consideration. One group of societies is now dealing with the problem, and the result of its deliberations will in a measure determine future action.

LEGAL ADVICE TO SOCIETIES.

The Sectional Board desires to draw attention to the arrangement come to with the United Board and now in force, whereby a representative of the firm of solicitors which acts on behalf of the Co-operative Union visits the sectional office on the first Wednesday in each month for the purpose of giving representatives of societies an opportunity of personally consulting him and obtaining advice on legal matters arising in connection with their operations. This arrangement came into force on the first Wednesday of December, 1918, and up to the time of writing Dr. San Garde has paid four visits to Newcastle, and has in the aggregate been consulted by 22 societies. General satisfaction has been expressed with the facilities given, and also with the unfailing readiness and courtesy of the gentleman sent to advise. The Sectional Board are desirous that the fullest advantage should be taken of the opportunity this arrangement offers, believing that it will operate to the advantage of societies.

CO-OPERATIVE REPRESENTATION : TWO DAYS' SCHOOLS.

In connection with the scheme for securing direct co-operative representation in Parliament and on local administrative authorities the Sectional Board, in conjunction with the Education Association, arranged for the holding of three two days' schools for the training of those willing to become teachers of one day schools, or classes which might be organised by local societies. These schools were held at North Shields and Carlisle on 12th and 13th July, with Mr. G. Riddle and Mr. W. R. Rae as teachers, and at Middlesbrough on 26th and 27th July, with Mr. G. McEwen as teacher.

The aggregate number of students nominated for attendance, and who agreed to act if required as teachers of one day schools was 68, and whilst the actual attendance fell slightly short of the nominations it was felt that, having regard to the interest and enthusiasm of the students, the object for which the schools were organised had been realised. A panel, therefore, is in existence from which teachers can be drawn to undertake work on behalf of societies who desire to continue propaganda work in connection with direct co-operative representation.

JOINT MEETING OF SECTIONAL BOARD AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS.

On 6th July, 1918, the Sectional Board met representatives of the conference associations for the purpose of agreeing upon a programme for the session. All the associations were represented, and Mr. W. R. Rae addressed the meeting on the Survey Report. After an interesting discussion it was unanimously agreed that, so far as existing arrangements allowed, the Survey Report under the three divisions, "Constitution," "Education," and "Trade," should be the subject of consideration at district conferences held during the year.

SURVEY COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

The arrangement come to with the conference associations has in the main been adhered to, and the recommendations of the Survey Committee

relating to co-operative education has also been considered by the Education Association. Several of the recommendations put forward by the committee, especially those relating to the constitution of the Central Education Committee and the formation of a National Auxiliary Council, have been subjected to considerable adverse criticism. Apart, however, from the relatively small number of proposals objected to, it is recognised that the report itself contains a mass of detailed information, and carefully thought-out conclusions which will prove of great value to those who wish to study the movement, or are seeking guidance as to how best to promote its interests. The discussion of the report has also accomplished results in the way of spreading a knowledge of the Co-operative Union and the scope of its activities which would not otherwise have been attained, and the interest thus aroused will undoubtedly be helpful in future developments.

CARLISLE CONGRESS.

The Congress of 1919 is to be held in Carlisle during Whit-week and preparations are in progress. In view of world conditions the 1919 gathering promises to be one of great interest and importance.

RECONSTRUCTION.

On behalf of the Union the United Board have issued to all societies a circular on "Co-operative Reconstruction" which contains certain recommendations, the importance of which the Sectional Board desire to impress upon societies. Modern conditions have brought the co-operative movement into greater prominence than at any previous period of its history, and co-operation is now recognised as a force to be dealt with. There can be little room for doubt that the great strengthening of private interests which is taking place constitutes a menace to democracy and a challenge to the co-operative movement. Co-operators must be prepared to meet this challenge. This is pre-eminently a matter for the attention of management committees of societies, and the Sectional Board desire it to be understood that in any effort towards further expansion the District Executives, the Women's Guilds, and the Sectional Board will be prepared to offer all the assistance within their power.

GILSLAND CONVALESCENT HOME.

The results of working this institution for the year, as shown by the report and balance sheet issued, are very satisfactory and encouraging. The maintenance account shows a substantial surplus, and the bank overdraft, which a few years ago amounted to over £7,000, now practically disappears, because whilst it now appears on the balance sheet at £885. 17s. 7d., the amount standing to the credit of the Home on Loan account with the Co-operative Wholesale Society is £935. 9s. 4d. The shareholding societies and the management are to be congratulated on the position, which augurs well for the beneficent work of the institution in the future.

NORTHERN CONCILIATION BOARD.

During the year two cases have come before this Board and decided.

WINDY NOOK TRAGEDY FUND.

During the year £57. 4s. has been paid to the widow and children of the late J. Patterson, and £2. 2s. for medical attendance. The amount standing to the credit of the fund on 31st December, 1918, was £677. 14s. 4d.

OBITUARY.

Mr. W. Archer, Sunderland Society.

In June, 1918, there passed out in the person of Mr. Archer one of the notable figures in Northern co-operation. In his early days he worked as a "half-timer" in a carpet factory at Heckmondwike, and later was engaged as check boy by the local society. From this position he rose to be assistant secretary, and after 19 years' service was chosen as secretary of the Sunderland Society. This position he held at his death, and had occupied it for 33 years. He passed through some troublous times in the history of the society, but his genial optimism and faith in the final triumph of the cause he served never deserted him. His counsel was eagerly sought by many and readily given. Eloquent testimony was given to the honour and respect in which he was held by the large number present at his interment.

Mr. C. Robson, Blaydon-on-Tyne.

Northern co-operators received a shock when it became known that Mr. Robson, general manager of the Blaydon Society, had passed away. It was generally known that he was suffering from illness, but few, if any, anticipated a fatal termination. Previous to his coming to Tyne-side he occupied a highly responsible position in the Stockton Society, where his able and faithful services had earned for him the highest esteem. From a long list of applicants he was selected as general manager to the Blaydon Society and justified his appointment. Notwithstanding a naturally retiring disposition and a reluctance to appear in the lime-light, Mr. Robson impressed all who came in contact with him by his straightforwardness and ability. He made many friends and his death was deplored by a wide circle as a distinct loss to the co-operative movement.

WM. SCOTT, Chairman.

A. STODDART, Secretary.

REPORTS OF THE DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS.

No. 1.—NORTH NORTHUMBERLAND.

Executive Committee.

Mr. J. M. Gillians, J.P. (chairman), Ash- ington.	Mr. T. Connor, Blyth.
„ G. Hardy (secretary), Bedlington.	„ J. Ritson, Newbiggin.
„ A. Walton, Newsham.	„ R Lee, Bedlington.
	„ J Magin, Ashington

Mr. J. Davison, Bedlington, Sectional Representative.

Four conferences have been held during the year, and considering the restrictions on travelling have been well attended. Three of the conferences were held at Morpeth, which is in a central position, and this arrangement partly met the difficulty of travelling.

The first conference was held at Choppington on 16th March, and immediately following the chairman's opening remarks and as a consequence of them the following resolution was unanimously agreed to, viz. :—

“That this conference vigorously protests against the unfair treatment received by the co-operative movement in the matter of food supplies, and calls upon the Sectional Board and the Co-operative Wholesale Society to organise the movement against what is taking place.”

The principal subject of discussion at this conference was co-operative representation and the adoption of the scheme of organisation outlined by the Co-operative Union. Mr. Davison introduced the subject, and after an interesting and instructive discussion it was decided to adopt the scheme and instruct the Executive to take the necessary steps to this end.

The second conference was held at Morpeth on 15th June, when Mr. A. Walton, in an able and practical address, introduced the question of “The Organisation of Allotment Holders.” A resolution urging this matter on the attention of societies was agreed to. Mr. Foreman also gave an interesting report of the Liverpool Congress.

The next two conferences were held at Morpeth on 24th August and 30th November respectively, at which Mr. T. Ross, secretary of No. 5 District, dealt in an able way with the Survey Report. The discussions were valuable and well sustained. Strong objection was taken to the method of nomination and election of members of the Central Board, and a resolution embodying that objection and favouring the present method was unanimously adopted.

The thanks of the district are due to the Ashington Industrial Society for the entertainment of three conferences at Morpeth and the provision of hospitality to delegates.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1918 :—

Receipts.			Expenditure.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Cash received from Sectional			By Conferences	9	13 1
Office	16	18 1	„ Executive Meetings	6	17 0
			„ Postages	0	8 0
	£16	18 1		£16	18 1

G. HARDY, Secretary.

No. 2.—SOUTH NORTHUMBERLAND.

Executive Committee.

Mr. J. Endean (chairman), Cramlington.	Mr. J. Kirkham, North Shields.
„ J. Wight (secretary), Cramlington.	„ J. Henderson, Coxlodge.
„ T. G. Hunter, Wallsend.	„ J. McKay, Walker.

Mr. J. C. Aiston, Sectional Representative, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

The committee have experienced great trouble in securing places for the conference to meet, as most of the halls usually used were in the occupation of the military. Consequently only one conference was held, when co-operative Parliamentary representation was further discussed. As this was remitted from the last conference a good discussion ensued, and it was decided that it was necessary for the movement to have direct representation in Parliament.

Another conference was arranged by the committee to discuss the Survey Report (Administration) but had to be abandoned.

Several area conferences have been held convened by the district executive, where important matters affecting the societies were discussed with excellent results.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1918 :—

Receipts.	£ s. d.	Expenditure.	£ s. d.
To Cash received from Sectional Office	3 17 11	By Conference	2 8 11
		„ Executive Meetings	1 7 0
		„ Postages	0 2 0
	<u>£3 17 11</u>		<u>£3 17 11</u>

J. WIGHT, Secretary.

No. 3.—CUMBERLAND AND WESTMORLAND.

Executive Committee.

Mr. Irving Graham, J.P. (chairman), Carlisle,	Mr. John Stephenson, Blennerhasset.
„ J. W. Mackay (secretary), Moor Row.	„ W. Hunt, Workington.
„ N. Ismay, Maryport.	„ H. Tyson, Egremont.
	„ T. H. Walker, Penrith.

Mr. G. Riddle, Carlisle, Sectional Representative.

The interest taken in the work of this district conference association has been well maintained during the past year. Most of the societies have consistently been represented by their usual complement of delegates to the several district conferences.

The women's co-operative guilds have been well and ably represented, and have taken a prominent part in the discussions of the conferences.

Four conferences have been held during the year. The first conference took place at Carlisle on 9th February, 1918, when Mr. G. Riddle, secretary of Carlisle Society, in a thoughtful, informative, and interesting address introduced the subject of direct Parliamentary representation. Mr. Riddle,

in the course of his address, traced the development of the idea of active intervention in politics, culminating in the Swansea resolution and the London Emergency Conference, pleaded for energetic action, and adduced convincing reasons for the course adopted. The address provoked a good discussion, which was taken part in by a large proportion of the delegates.

The second conference was held at Penrith on 4th May, 1918. Mr. I. Graham, J.P., read Mr. A. Stoddart's paper: "A Plea for Co-operative Representation in Parliament." As at the previous conference on this subject a good discussion ensued.

The third conference was held at Keswick on 17th August, 1918, the subject discussed being "The Survey Committee's Report on Constitution." Mr. A. Stoddart introduced the subject and a lively discussion ensued. The recommendations of the committee were subjected to close scrutiny by the delegates taking part in the discussion, and a resolution rejecting that dealing with the method of election of the Central Board and adhering to the present method was unanimously agreed to.

The fourth conference took place under the auspices of the Beehive Society, Workington, on 9th November, Mr. W. R. Rae dealing with the Survey Committee's recommendations relating to co-operative education. Mr. Rae dealt in his usual able manner with the subject and a very instructive discussion resulted.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1918:—

Receipts.			Expenditure.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Cash received from Sectional Office	31	7 2	By Conferences	19	0 7
			„ Executive Meetings	11	15 3
			„ Postages	0	11 4
	£31	7 2		£31	7 2

J. W. MACKAY, Secretary.

No. 4.—WEST DURHAM AND SOUTH NORTHUMBERLAND.

Executive Committee.

Mr. Isaac C. Nixon (chairman), West Stanley.	Mr. Geo. Greener, Prudhoe.
„ R. Steel (secretary), Holmlea, Newburn.	„ E. Y. Spencer, Swalwell.
„ E. Hargreaves, Newburn.	„ W. Harrison, Tantobie.
	„ E. Saunders, Consett.

Mr. W. Scott, Blaydon, Sectional Representative.

The first of the four conferences held during the year met at Haydon Bridge under the auspices of the local society, when Mr. Wilson Clayton (Director, Co-operative Wholesale Society) read Mr. A. Stoddart's paper: "A Plea for Co-operative Representation in Parliament." The same subject was submitted to the succeeding conference by Mr. Stoddart (secretary, Northern Section) at Annfield Plain, while at the annual conference held at Haltwhistle, Mr. H. B. Wilson (Wallsend) gave an address on "Direct Representation in

Parliament." Thus the same topic was introduced into three consecutive conferences in the district, the Executive Committee being of the opinion that it was not only advisable, but essential to confine itself to and concentrate its energies upon this particular propaganda, as from experience gained in local efforts towards consolidation in the co-operative interest it is felt that education is imperative before co-operators waken to the importance of the question. These conferences were well attended and fully representative, the discussions helpful and valuable, and have undoubtedly been instrumental, not only in overcoming much of the inertia and self-centred attitude extant, but also in dispelling misconceptions and removing prejudices.

Our fourth conference was held at Consett, when Mr. E. Saunders (Executive Committee, and chairman, Consett Co-operative Society) gave an address on "Co-operative Reconstruction," submitting as salient factors in this process: (1) "Overlapping," with the advice that societies accept the recommendation of the Survey Committee to bring their differences to the Union for decision. (2) "Education," enlarging upon the improvements in, and possibilities of the new Act for the communal as well as the individual good. (3) "Direct Parliamentary Representation," recommending the abolition of the National Co-operative Representation Committee as at present constituted; such committee to be responsible to the executive authority of the Central Board. (4) "Pensions to Co-operative Employees," suggesting that while in favour of a national pensions scheme, co-operators ought to do something themselves until the country is ripe for such. (5) "Finance," advocating the removal of all limitations upon the amount of investments in retail societies.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1918:—

Receipts.		£	s.	d.	Expenditure.		£	s.	d.
To Cash received from Sectional					By Conferences		14	15	0
Office		23	19	10	" Executive Meetings		8	11	7
					" Postage, &c.		0	13	3
		£23	19	10			£23	19	10

R. STEEL, Secretary.

No. 5.—EAST DURHAM.

Executive Committee.

Mr. Thos. Wallace (chairman), Hebburn Colliery.	Mr. S. Bramley, Jarrow.
" Thomas Ross (secretary) Felling.	" A. D. Franks, Boldon Colliery.
" W. Johnson, Birtley.	" William Flynn, Gateshead.
	" J. Wonders, S. Shields.

Mr. W. R. Rae, Sunderland, Sectional Representative.

We have held four conferences during the year, the subjects discussed at the conferences being of such importance as to create considerable discussion.

The first conference was held in connection with Birtley Co-operative Society, 2nd February, 1918. At this conference Mr. Stoddart (sectional secretary) dealt with the subject of direct Parliamentary representation.

After considerable discussion, for and against, it ultimately resolved that the conference considered co-operative representation in Parliament to be necessary.

The second conference of the year was held at Haswell, 4th May, 1918. Mr. Flynn (a member of the District Committee) introduced the subject "Co-operation and Reconstruction after the War." Owing to lack of time, Haswell being a place on the outskirts of the district, the discussion was in no way exhausted, and it was ultimately agreed to continue the subject at the next conference, which was held at Gateshead on 31st August, 1918. At this conference Mr. Flynn again introduced the subject, dealing with demobilisation, capital, housing, &c. The variety of subjects introduced which Mr. Flynn considered to come within the province of reconstruction after the war made it quite easy for a number of delegates to take part in the discussion. It was fairly lengthy and general, but no resolutions were arrived at.

The fourth conference was held 23rd November, at West Pelton. The subject for discussion at this particular conference was "The Survey Committee's Report *re* Constitution of the Co-operative Union." In the absence of Mr. Rae, Mr. Ross (district secretary) introduced the discussion, and the report was taken under the following heads:—"Objects of the Union," "Membership of the Union," "Administration," and "Method of Election." The conference was anxious to satisfy itself that the Union was not seeking to enter further into trade matters as a trading concern. The secretary of course explained that this was not their object in the remodelling of the rule *re* "Objects." *Re* "Membership of the Union." The conference expressed agreement with the Survey Committee's report under this head. *Re* "Administration." The conference expressed itself as not in agreement with the Survey Committee's as set out under the heading. "Central Board and its Executive." In discussing the qualifications for members of the Central Board the conference passed the resolution that Clause 1, under the above heading, be deleted. *Re* "Method of Election." The conference expressed its approval of district nomination and district voting.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1918:—

Receipts.			Expenditure.		
To	Cash received from Sectional Office	£ s. d. 13 4 0	By	Conferences ,, Executive Meetings	£ s. d. 7 5 11 5 18 1
		£13 4 0			£18 4 0

THOMAS ROSS, Secretary.

No. 6.—SOUTH DURHAM.

Executive Committee.

Mr. J. Bell (chairman), Ferryhill.	Mr. J. W. Strickland, Willington.
„ J. Davison (secretary), Newbottle.	„ S. Whiteley, Brandon.
„ Joseph Bell, Tow Law.	„ W. Emery, Station Town.
„ T. Readshaw, Bishop Auckland.	

Mr. S. Galbraith, M.P., Durham, Sectional Representative.

Five conferences have been held during the year, one of which was special, and at each societies in the district were well represented. The first and special conference was held at Durham on 26th January, 1918, the subject dealt with being Parliamentary representation, so far as it related to the formation of local councils, and putting into operation the scheme outlined by the Co-operative Union. Mr. Readshaw dealt with the subject in a lucid speech, and moved a resolution in favour of acceptance of the scheme. After an exhaustive discussion the resolution was agreed to with three dissentients, and the executive instructed to draft a scheme for submission to individual societies in the district.

The second conference was held at Hetton Downs on 6th April, 1918, when a scheme for the establishment of local councils, prepared by the executive, was submitted, which, after prolonged discussion taken part in by a large number of delegates and the Co-operative Wholesale Society's representative, was agreed to. At this conference a resolution expressing the district's appreciation of the long and valuable services of the retiring chairman (Mr. Price) was submitted by Mr. S. Galbraith, M.P., and unanimously agreed to.

The third conference was held at Brandon on 6th July, 1918, and was occupied with the discussion of a comprehensive report of the proceedings of the Liverpool Congress, submitted by Mr. Readshaw, which gave rise to an interesting and instructive discussion.

The fourth conference took place at Coxhoe on 28th September, 1918, when Mr. McNally, of the Coxhoe Society, submitted the "Recommendations of the Survey Committee on the Constitution of the Union." The discussion revealed a considerable difference of opinion with regard to some of the recommendations, but, eventually, with the exception of the proposed method of nomination and voting for the Central Board, the report was agreed to. With regard to the latter, a resolution favouring the method now in operation in the section was unanimously agreed to.

The fifth conference was held at Pitlington on 21st December, the subject for discussion being the Survey Report on "Trade," Mr. Readshaw introducing it. With the exception of that relating to banking the whole of the recommendations of the Survey Committee were endorsed. In relation to banking, a resolution was unanimously agreed to voicing the disapproval of the conference to the suggestion of a new bank, and affirming the opinion that the Co-operative Wholesale Society was capable of dealing with that business.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1918:—

Receipts.			Expenditure.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Cash received from Sectional			By Conferences	14	11 9
Office.....	28	8 3	„ Executive Meetings	12	16 11
			„ Postages, &c.....	0	14 7
	£28	8 3		£29	3 8

JAS. DAVISON, Secretary.

No. 7.—SOUTH DURHAM AND NORTH RIDING OF YORKSHIRE.

Executive Committee.

Mr. T. Liddle, J.P. (chairman), West Hartlepool.	Mr. J. Cotterill, J.P., Guisbrough.
„ R. Turnbull (secretary), Loftus.	„ W. R. Tennet (deceased), West Hartlepool.
„ T. W. Brown, Darlington.	„ T. Scarth, Stockton-on-Tees.
	„ D. Lang, Middlesbrough.

Mr. G. Bedford, Middlesbrough, Sectional Representative.

Our opening word has perforce to be an expression of our deepest regret at the loss of our esteemed colleague, Mr. J. R. Tennet, who fell a victim to the influenza scourge when in the midst of his co-operative activities, being at the time of his death billed to take an active part in our conference next following. We always found him ready to undertake any duty which tended to the furtherance of true co-operation. A more genial, courteous, and kind comrade no body of men could desire to associate with, and his death we deeply lament.

We have pleasure in reporting that the societies in this district are still making remarkable progress both in trade, capital, and membership.

Conferences have been held during the year as follows:—

Place.	Subject.	Introduced by
Middlesbrough..	Survey Committee's Report.	Mr. W. R. Blair's Paper, read by Mr. D. Lang.
West Hartlepool .	Future Co-operative Development.	Mr. G. Bedford (Sectional Board).
Guisbrough	Survey Committee's Report, Constitution of the Union.	Mr. W. R. Rae (Sectional Board).
Stockton	Survey Committee's Report—Educational Portion.	Prof. Hall's Paper, read by Mr. T. W. Brown (District Executive).

The average attendance at these conferences was 103, which is considered quite satisfactory, seeing that fully one-half of the societies are now practically prevented from sending delegates on account of inefficient train service.

At the Middlesbrough Conference a diversion was made from the agenda by Mr. Tennet (Executive) moving a motion protesting against the inadequate supplies of butter, margarine, and other commodities received by societies in the district, and demanding the Food Controller to take such immediate steps as would ensure that co-operative societies should receive sufficient of these to supply the same amount per head as is being provided in other parts of the country. The resolution was agreed to and forwarded at once to Lord Rhondda.

At West Hartlepool Mr. Bedford was in his element with a paper prepared jointly by himself and Mr. Lang, in which they pointed out numerous avenues for the spread and advancement of the movement. One sentence, however, which referred to the federation of local societies for the production of necessities was strongly criticised by representatives present.

At Guisbrough Mr. Rae did good service by graphically laying before the delegates the Survey Committee's recommendations and alterations suggested in the constitution of the Union. The discussion which followed was serviceable in bringing out points which Mr. Rae in his reply elucidated, so making the ideas of the Survey Committee more clear. The secretary, Mr. Turnbull, presented his statistical report for 1917 at this conference, but time did not allow for discussion thereon.

At Stockton Mr. Liddle, district president, referred in feeling terms to the loss the district had sustained through the death of Mr. Tennet, and moved that a message of sympathy and condolence be sent to the widow and family. This was agreed to in silence. Professor Hall's paper lost nothing through the reading of it by Mr. Brown, neither did it in the discussion, though on some points criticism was offered, but generally the work done and schemes suggested by the Survey Committee were appreciated. A feature of these conferences was the large attendance of females, representing their various guilds, some of whom took an active part in all the discussions.

Some action has been taken during the year towards co-ordination by the various educational committees in the district. Representatives from at least six or seven of these committees have met to consider if help could not be rendered each other in arranging their programmes. This matter was reported to the district executive, who, in turn, approached the Sectional Board for permission to hold a special conference of all the members of each Educational Committee. Permission was readily granted, and it is expected to hold such conference in the early spring, at which both the district executive representatives of the Sectional Board will be present. We are hopeful the outcome of this new departure will be an advancement of the educational interests of the district. Our thanks are due to the various societies who have entertained conferences and also executive meetings, four of which have been held other than those held on the days of conference.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1918:—

Receipts.			Expenditure.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Cash received from Sectional Office.....	32	8 8½	By Conferences	9	2 10½
			„ Executive Meetings	12	13 5
			„ Representatives	5	7 5
			„ Postage, &c.	0	15 0
			„ Balance in Hand.....	4	10 0
	£32	8 8½		£32	8 8½

R. TURNBULL, Secretary.

NORTHERN SECTION EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION.

We have pleasure in submitting for your consideration and approval the annual report and balance sheet for the year 1918. During nearly the whole of the year the strain of war was acutely felt and reacted adversely upon educational activities. As a consequence the organisation of classes, especially for adults, was in many instances found to be practically impossible. Several junior classes have been held, but the organisation of these has also been affected by war conditions. The cloud of war has now lifted; we stand on the threshold of a new order, and the opportunity of co-operators to set the standard of citizenship has arrived. The committee feel that every society affiliated with the association, by increased and enthusiastic educational activity, can and ought to make a valuable contribution to the building of a new and better world.

CONFERENCES.

During the year four conferences have been held. The first was held under the auspices of the Blaydon Society at Scotswood on 30th March, 1918, when the subject considered was "The Work of Education Committees in connection with Direct Representation in Parliament." The subject was divided into two parts:—(a) The reasons for the movement seeking Parliamentary representation, and (b) the scheme for securing such representation. The first was dealt with by Mr. W. Lawther, and the second by Mr. W. R. Rae. An interesting feature of the proceedings was a presentation to Mr. Wilson Clayton of a pair of beautifully painted water colours on his retirement, through pressure of other duties, from the secretaryship of the association.

The second was held in the New Hall of the local society at Stockton-on-Tees on 29th June, 1918, when an interesting address on "Some Misconceptions of Co-operative Representation" was given by Mr. R. J. Wilson.

The third was held at Newbiggin-by-the-Sea on 12th October, 1918, and was addressed by Mr. Lucas, M.A., of Glasgow, on "Education and Co-operative Class Work."

The fourth was held at Birtley on 11th January, 1919, when Professor F. Hall, M.A., B.Com., Director of Studies to the Co-operative Union, dealt with "The Survey Committee's Recommendations relating to Co-operative Education." The attendance at each conference was good, and interesting and instructive discussions resulted.

PRESENTATION OF GOLD BANGLE.

Miss Webb, of Middlesbrough, the only student in the junior classes obtaining the required number of marks, was, at the Newbiggin Conference, presented with the gold bangle awarded by the association.

WEEK-END SCHOOL.

A week-end school was organised at Newbiggin-by-the-Sea in the beginning of October and was a pronounced success. The proceedings commenced with a reception of students on the Friday evening. Mr. T. Welsh, J.P., manager of Newbiggin Society, proving an ideal host. One of the features of the reception meeting was the delivery of a closely reasoned and eloquent address to the students by the Rev. Mr. Ward, of Newbiggin-by-the-Sea. On Saturday morning Mr. J. Lucas, M.A. (Glasgow) lectured on "Some Lessons of Industrial History," and in the evening Mr. T. B. Tilley, M.A., M.Litt., L.C.P. (Gateshead), dealt with "The Effect of the New Education Act, Nationally and Locally." Mr. Tilley delivered a second lecture, his subject being "An Educated Man: The need for a New Standard," and Miss Hogg (Newcastle) made a valuable contribution by an address on "Educational Development—National and Co-operative." About thirty students were in residence, and the attendance at the lectures was augmented by others resident in the district. Great satisfaction with the proceedings was felt by the students, and a strong desire expressed for others being organised on similar lines. Inquiries are now being made for a suitable centre at which to hold another week-end school.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1918:—

Income.			Expenditure.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Balance forward	116	9 6	By Subscriptions	14	7 8
„ Subscriptions	59	10 3	„ Conference Expenses	15	9 11
„ Interest C.W.S. Bank	1	5 11	„ Committee's Fees and Fares	8	4 3
			„ Miscellaneous Expenses	15	16 4
			„ Cash in Hand	2	2 0
			„ Balance in Bank	121	5 6
	£177	5 8		£177	5 8

A. STODDART, Secretary.

(4) NORTH-WESTERN SECTION.

Ten ordinary and two special meetings of the Sectional Board have been held during the year, at which the attendance has been as follows:—

	Present.	Sick.	On Deputation.
W. R. Blair	11	1	—
E. Booth	12	—	—
G. Briggs	8	1	—
J. R. Cunliffe	10	—	—
W. Dewhurst	11	—	—
S. Fairbrother	10	—	1
S. R. Foster	11	1	—
G. Goodenough	11	—	1
J. Greenwood	10	2	—
W. Gregory	11	1	—
F. Hayward	11	—	1
A. Horricks	12	—	—
F. Houghton	11	1	—
J. Johnston	12	—	—
G. Major	9	1	—
J. Morrell	1	2	—
T. Redfearn	11	1	—
W. Swindlehurst	7	4	—
*J. Thompson	9	—	—
T. Way	9	1	—
B. Woolfenden	10	—	—

Hon. Members:—

	Present.	Sick.	Absent.
C. J. Beckett	—	—	12
H. Stuttard	—	—	12

* Mr. J. Thompson, being the highest unsuccessful candidate at the last election, and having obtained the requisite number of votes, as per rule, was invited to fill the vacancy caused by the lamented death of Mr. J. Morrell.

At the first meeting held after Congress the following appointments were made, viz.:—

Chairman: Mr. F. Hayward.

Vice-chairman: Mr. G. Goodenough.

United Board: Messrs. G. Goodenough, F. Hayward, G. Major, and W. Swindlehurst.

Office Committee: Messrs. G. Goodenough and F. Hayward.

Education Committee: Messrs. E. Booth and S. Fairbrother.

Joint Propaganda Committee: Messrs. W. Gregory and T. Way.

Central Parliamentary Representation Committee: Messrs. G. Goodenough and W. Gregory.

North-Western Educational Committees' Association: Mr. B. Woolfenden.

Sectional Propaganda Committee: Messrs. W. R. Blair, J. R. Cunliffe, W. Dewhurst, S. R. Foster, A. Horricks, F. Houghton, and J. Johnston.

Choral Association: Messrs. W. R. Blair, J. R. Cunliffe, W. Dewhurst, S. Fairbrother, and J. Morrell.

In again reviewing the work of the section we cannot refrain from referring to the difficulties which societies have experienced in consequence of the war. The rationing of commodities has somewhat interfered with new developments, and societies have not been very anxious to increase their membership on account of the restrictions imposed by Government. Notwithstanding the trying times and abnormal conditions, however, the societies have stood the test remarkably well, and we believe have made substantial progress.

The Sectional Board have held ten ordinary and two special meetings, at which many matters of importance have been dealt with. In accordance with the decision of the Liverpool Congress special attention has been given to the report of the Survey Committee, and the district associations have also done everything possible to bring the recommendations of the committee prominently before societies in the respective districts. Many societies have held special meetings of members, and, speaking generally, every opportunity has been given for the rank and file of the movement to become conversant with the many and varied recommendations contained in the report.

LOCAL AND PARLIAMENTARY REPRESENTATION.

In connection with the scheme for local and Parliamentary representation the Sectional Board organised ten two-day schools at the following centres, viz.: Huddersfield, Leeds, Liverpool, Manchester, Macclesfield, Nelson, Sheffield, Todmorden, Wigan, and York. Upwards of 200 students attended these schools and the interest taken in the lectures was very encouraging.

The object of these schools is to train teachers and speakers in co-operative politics, and we are pleased to report that many of the students who attended signed the official form agreeing to assist in any possible way to promote a more active interest in co-operative political action.

In addition to the two-day schools many societies have organised one-day schools, and the Sectional Board appointed suitable persons to give the lectures as outlined in the official syllabus. Very satisfactory reports were received,

and it is hoped that many more societies will see the wisdom of organising similar gatherings.

As regards representation on local governing bodies, many societies are taking up this question with enthusiasm, and in several cases co-operative candidates have been elected by substantial majorities. This is a clear indication of the power co-operators possess if they will only pull together.

RECONSTRUCTION.

With the view to strengthening the position of the movement and undertaking considerable developments the Board recommend that societies should at once—

(1) Survey their own activities and the possibilities of development in their areas, considering also the adequacy of staffs for the provision of a service equal to, or better than, that provided by other shops.

(2) Consider the staffing of their businesses and the reinstating of the men who will come back when general demobilisation takes place.

(3) Consider what extensions are necessary or desirable and possible now or in the immediate future.

(4) Take steps to increase their capital, upon which their own developments and those of the Wholesale Societies depend.

(5) Organise a scheme of propaganda, utilising the services of general and educational committees, men's and women's guilds, and the district associations and sectional board.

(6) Consider the question of housing, which is one of vital importance at the present time (information as to advances of capital for housing purposes may be obtained from Mr. T. Goodwin, the manager of the Co-operative Wholesale Society Bank).

(7) Arrange for deputations to meet local branches of trade unions with the view to enlisting sympathy and support of their members in the work of co-operative development.

The question of housing is one that should seriously occupy the attention of management committees, not necessarily that societies should embark upon extensive schemes, but that they should join with other democratic forces in bringing pressure to bear upon local governing bodies to at once do something to meet the pressing need. The housing of the people is essentially a national responsibility, and it is the Government's duty to find ways and means of carrying out this important work.

SECTIONAL PROPAGANDA.

Now that several of the restrictions that have hampered the progress of sectional propaganda during the war are in a fair way towards being removed, the Propaganda Committee is preparing a plan of campaign for its more effective administration, and with the view to enlisting the support of the women's and men's guilds, the Lancashire and Yorkshire sections thereof have each been invited to appoint a representative on the Sectional Propaganda Committee.

SECTIONAL CONFERENCES.

The first of the sectional conferences was held on Saturday, 28th September, in the Co-operative Hall, Pendleton, under the auspices of the Pendleton Co-operative Society, when Mr. W. R. Rae introduced the trade section of the Survey Committee's report. The conference was attended by about 400 delegates, and the recommendations with regard to the future development of the movement were freely discussed. The report of the Survey Committee reveals many startling facts. It is surprising to find how many societies still refuse to allow their members to invest to the full amount allowed by the Industrial and Provident Societies Act, especially at a time when the movement requires much more capital in order to secure control of the sources of supply. We feel sure that the Co-operative Wholesale Society and the productive societies are capable of utilising with advantage to the movement all the surplus capital of our distributive societies. If we are to keep our place in the ranks of progress it is imperative that every facility should be given to our members to keep their money within the movement.

With the object of enlisting the sympathy and co-operation of our trade union friends a special joint conference of trade-unionists and co-operators was held in the Mitchell Memorial Hall, Manchester, on Saturday, 26th April. The arrangements for such a gathering were made by a joint committee representing the Sectional Board and Trades and Labour Councils. Both co-operative societies and trade unions were well represented, and very keen interest was taken in the following resolutions, which were submitted and passed, viz. :—

(a)

This conference of trade-unionists and co-operators recognising that no great social and industrial movement can emerge from the crisis of the war without being affected by it, declares its firm conviction that the co-operative movement must promptly take its part in influencing and directing the work of national reconstruction. It therefore recommends :—

- (1) That co-operative principles and practice should be taken as the basis in all matters of food supplies.
- (2) That the development of co-operative banking and trading is essential, and that trade-unionists and co-operators should be encouraged to increase their share holding in co-operative societies up to the legal limit, in order that co-operative societies may secure an adequate supply of raw materials and enter more extensively into production, so that a larger number of workers may be employed in co-operative factories.
- (3) That consolidation by amalgamation of societies operating in the same industrial area be undertaken without delay.
- (4) And that the unification and development of educational and propaganda efforts be encouraged as a means of aiding reconstruction, national, co-operative, and industrial.

Moved by Mr. A. A. Purcell (president, Manchester and Salford Trades and Labour Council), seconded by Mr. T. Killon, J.P. (president of the Co-operative Wholesale Society), and supported by Mrs. S. Dickinson (secretary, Manchester Women's Trades Council).

(b)

The delegates to this Conference, recognising fully the necessity for a closer connection between the trade union and co-operative movements, pledge themselves to do all in their power to promote greater unity by the advocacy of a satisfactory minimum standard of living for all workers, and the support of all workers' organisations in every phase of industry. They further pledge themselves to work for the time when the consumers and workers together shall control industry by the incoming of one great people's movement for the establishment of the co-operative commonwealth.

Moved by Mr. W. H. Brown (prospective Parliamentary candidate for Mossley), seconded by Councillor B. Turner, J.P. (president, Yorkshire Federation of Trades Councils), and supported by Mrs. A. Blair (secretary, Lancashire Section of the Women's Co-operative Guild).

There was never a time when it was more necessary than it is to-day for the trade union and co-operative movements to pull together. Their ideals and aspirations are identical, and by united action they can assist very substantially in reorganising and developing our industrial system on right lines.

The annual Sectional Conference for the consideration of the sectional and district reports was held at Liverpool on Saturday, 10th May, under the auspices of the Liverpool Co-operative Society.

SECRETARIES' CONFERENCES.

It is usual to organise two special conferences during the year for co-operative secretaries but, owing to the exigencies of the war and the pressure of work which has been put upon secretaries in consequence of the shortage of staff, the council of the Secretaries' Association has thought it inopportune to hold such gatherings. In the near future, however, the usual conferences will doubtless be held.

JOINT MEETING WITH DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES.

On Saturday, the 26th of October, 1918, the Sectional Board met representatives from the district associations in the section to consider and discuss the recommendations of the Survey Committee with regard to the constitution and administration of the Union. The meeting was held in two divisions, one at Leeds and the other at Manchester. Mr. W. Gregory introduced the subject at Manchester and Mr. J. Pollitt at Leeds. A lengthy discussion took place at both gatherings and the following resolution was passed unanimously :—

In view of the importance of the recommendations of the Survey

Committee with regard to the constitution and administration of the Union, this joint meeting of members of the Sectional Board and representatives from district conference associations recommends the Executive Committee of each district to arrange for the report to be discussed at conferences (where such has not already been done) and that the societies in each district be urged to convene meetings of members at which a representative from the district executive should be present to speak upon the various recommendations embodied in the report.

SECTIONAL DEMONSTRATION.

It has been decided to go forward this year with the arrangements for a Sectional Demonstration, and the committee of the Choral Association have also unanimously decided to hold the usual choir contests. Dr. Henry Coward, of Sheffield, has again been invited to act as adjudicator and choose the test pieces. The amount now standing to the credit of the demonstration fund is £330, and to the credit of the Choral Association £80, making a total of £410. The demonstration and choir contest will be held at Shipley under the auspices of the Windhill Society. Full particulars of the demonstration will be issued in due course.

WEEK-END GATHERING OF CO-OPERATORS AT BLACKPOOL CO-OPERATIVE CONVALESCENT HOME.

The Sectional Board agreed to resume the usual week-end gathering at Blackpool, and the committee of the Convalescent Homes Association kindly consented to provide accommodation at the Convalescent Home, Whitegate Drive, from 5th to 7th April. Mr. Spurley Hey, B.A. (Director of Education, Manchester), gave a lecture on "Educational Co-operation," Mr. G. W. Daniels, M.A., B.Com. (Manchester University), addressed the gathering on "The Social Significance of the Co-operative Movement," and Miss E. M. Bradley, M.A., M.E.D. (Bolton), spoke on "The Status of Women in the New Social Order." A most interesting and profitable week-end was spent, and we believe everyone present enjoyed their visit.

(a) SEASIDE HOME, BLACKPOOL.

The attendance at this home during the past year has been as follows, viz. :

	1918.	1917.	
Recommends presented (2 weeks)	1,164½	1,342	177½ Dec.
" " (3 weeks)	224	7	217 Inc.
Extra weeks	83	275	192 Dec.

Number of weeks	3,084	2,980	104 Inc.
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It will be seen from the above figures that whilst there has been a decrease in recommends received from ordinary convalescents, the large increase in the

three-week recommends issued to discharged soldiers has more than counter-balanced such decrease, the net result being a slight increase over the previous year. It is pleasing to note that recommends have been issued to no less than twenty local War Pensions Committees, whilst under the arrangements made between our Association and the Gilsland Convalescent Association fifteen recommends have been issued to societies in the north, all of which have been used at the Blackpool Home. Forty-four recommends have also been issued to the Midland Convalescent Fund.

(b) INLAND HOME, OTLEY.

The attendance at the inland home has been as follows:—

	1918. 1917.			
Recommends presented (2 weeks)	164	188	24	Dec.
" " (3 weeks)	37½	—	37½	Inc.
Extra weeks	78	130	52	Dec.

Number of weeks 518 506 .12 Inc.

Amount received from visitors :—1918, £338. 6s. 6d. ;

1917, £115. 16s. 6d. Increase, £220. 10s.

Here, again, there has been a slight decrease in ordinary recommends, but this is more than made up by the recommends from Pensions Committees. There has also been a large increase in the number of visitors, which in view of the lack of convalescents is satisfactory. The committee adopted the policy of advertising the Home as being available for visitors, and this, we think, was justified by the response thereto.

ALLOTMENT HOLDERS.

Every encouragement should be given by the committees of societies to their managers and buyers to set themselves out to cater for the requirements of small holders. There are undoubtedly greater opportunities for business in this direction, and we would suggest that managers should get into touch with allotment holders' associations, where such are formed, and bring to the notice of their members the advantages of purchasing their requirements from co-operative sources.

FEDERATION OF HOURS AND WAGES BOARDS.

For the better working of the various Hours and Wages Boards, and with the view to keeping in touch with what is being done by each Board, federations have been established, one comprising the Wages Boards in Lancashire, and one in Yorkshire. These federations have met on several occasions and have been the means of bringing about a better co-ordination of policy than existed formerly. The Hours and Wages Boards throughout the section have been very active during the year owing to the many demands which have been made by employees through their organisations from time to time. What with threatened strikes and rumours of strikes the Wages Boards have not had a very pleasant task, but by judicious and careful handling of the problems confronting them many disputes have been avoided.

REPRESENTATION ON BAKING INDUSTRIAL COUNCILS.

A National Industrial Council for the bread baking and flour confectionery industry has been formed, upon which the movement has four representatives out of 21 employers, but in spite of the recommendation of the National Council that a similar proportion of representatives should be appointed on the district councils two seats only have been allotted to us on the Lancashire Council. In view of this decision a strong protest was made to the Minister of Labour, and the following is a copy of his reply :—

“ Ministry of Labour,

“ Montagu House,

“ Whitehall, S.W.1.

“ Sir,—I am directed by the Ministry of Labour to refer to your letter of the 4th March with reference to the representation of your Union upon the Lancashire District Council for Bread Baking and Flour Confectionery.

“ The Minister notes that in the constitution for district councils drawn up by the National Council it is recommended that the representation of local centres of the Co-operative Union upon district councils should be not less than the proportion allotted to the Union on the National Joint Industrial Council. The attention of the joint secretaries of that body has been drawn to this matter and will no doubt receive their consideration.

“ I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

B. WILSON.

“ J. Bradshaw, Esq.,

“ North-Western Section of the Co-operative Union Ltd.,

“ Manchester, 22nd March, 1919.”

BOUNDARIES.

Colne and Earby.—Colne Co-operative Society having taken over the operations of the late Salterforth Society, a strong desire was expressed that the existing boundary agreement between the Colne and Earby Societies should be revised. With this object in view meetings have been held with the executive of the North-East Lancashire district and the committees of the societies concerned. A survey of the district was also taken by representatives from the district executive and the Sectional Board. Notwithstanding these efforts, however, we regret that up to the present no satisfactory arrangement has been arrived at. Negotiations are still proceeding.

Bradford and Eccleshill.—A complaint having been made by the Eccleshill Society that the City of Bradford Society had purchased land in their area a sub-committee was appointed to interview the Boards of Management of the two societies. A meeting was held on the premises of the City of Bradford Society, and the proceedings were conducted in a true co-operative spirit, as a result of which we believe a satisfactory solution of the difficulty will be found. Negotiations have not yet been completed.

Queensferry, Buckley, and Hawarden.—Queensferry Society having taken over the Penyfford Society it was found necessary to establish boundary lines between the societies carrying on operations in the adjacent districts. Meetings have been held and agreements satisfactory to all parties have been drawn up.

Amalgamation.—The trend of the times is towards combination, especially among the large multiple firms. The recent federation of British industries formed for the protection of capitalist interests now has a membership with a capital of 5,000 millions. It surely needs very little imagination to understand the motives behind these huge monopolies, and if co-operators were alive to their own interests they would need very little persuasion to enter upon a campaign for the consolidation of co-operative interests throughout the country. In the Huddersfield district a special committee has been appointed to consider and prepare a scheme for amalgamation of the following societies in the Colne Valley, viz.:—Central Working Men's (Golcar), Golcar, Linthwaite, Longwood, Marsden, Milnsbridge, Scape Goat Hill, and Slaithwaite. Meetings have been held, and we understand negotiations are still proceeding. There are also other places in the Huddersfield district where the question of amalgamation is being seriously taken into consideration. Meetings have also been held between the Boards of Management of the two Oldham societies, the Industrial and Equitable, and the two societies at Swinton, and we are looking forward to the objects of these meetings being achieved.

LIVERPOOL CONGRESS.

During Whitsuntide last this section had the honour of entertainig Congress, which was held at Liverpool. The proceedings of Congress and the arrangements for the delegates gave every satisfaction, and our thanks are due to the committees and officials of the Birkenhead and Liverpool societies for the admirable manner in which the work was carried out.

GENERAL.

Notwithstanding the unsettled state of the country several applications have been received to assist in the formation of new societies, particularly in the North Wales district, but owing to the refusal of the Government to allow new businesses to be commenced we have had to be content to prepare for the time when the restrictions would be removed. The time is not far distant when a start can be made and the banner of co-operation established in these new districts.

The following societies in the section have been admitted to membership during the year, viz.:—Bromsborough Pool, Rochdale Laundries, and Tottington Industrial.

The subscriptions received in the section for the year 1918 amount to £7,899. 14s. 5d., an increase of £359. 4s. 7d. over 1917.

OBITUARY.

It is with extreme regret that we have to report the loss during the year of the following well-known co-operators. For many years they were actively

engaged in the work of the movement, and we desire to place on record our deep sense of loss and our appreciation of the services which they so ungrudgingly gave to co-operation in this section:—Mr. J. Morrell (Bradford), Mr. C. J. Beckett (Darwen), Mr. J. Parr (secretary, North Lancashire District), Mr. A. G. Richardson (secretary, Bolton District), Mr. W. Whittle (Preston), and Mr. J. Jarman (Warrington).

F. HAYWARD, Chairman.

J. BRADSHAW, Secretary.

REPORTS OF THE DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS.

No 1.—AIREDALE.

Executive Committee.

Mr. J. C. Gration (chairman), Leeds.
 „ M. Hopwood (secretary), Bradford.
 „ J. E. N. Brooke, Keighley.
 „ A. Firth, City of Bradford.

Mr. E. Hyde, Windhill.
 „ J. Noble, Great Horton.
 „ H. Whalley, Denholme.

Representative on the Sectional Board: Mr. S. R. Foster, Bingley.

This association has held four conferences during the year. The first was held at Carleton, near Skipton, when Mr. E. Jackson (Co-operative Wholesale Society's Agricultural Department) gave an address on "Industrial Co-operation and Agriculture."

The second was held at Bingley. Mr. A. Firth (Executive) read the "Review of Trade Report" issued by the Survey Committee.

The third conference was held at Shipley at the invitation of the Windhill Society. Mr. J. Pollitt, Labour Adviser and member of Survey Committee, gave an exhaustive *résumé* of the Survey Committee's report.

The fourth conference was held at Bradford at the invitation of the City of Bradford Society, and Mr. F. Duce (Men's Guild) gave a paper on "Problems of Reconstruction—Co-operative and National."

The whole of the conferences were well attended. The subjects chosen for consideration were of a varied character, but bristling with debatable matter, of which the delegates took full advantage. The executive are extremely obliged to those societies which have entertained conferences during the year.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1918:—

Receipts.	£	s.	d.	Expenditure.	£	s.	d.
To Cash in hand, 1st Jan., 1918.....	6	0	0	By Executive Meetings	6	4	11
„ Cash from North-Western Sectional Board.....	16	13	0	„ Conferences and other Meetings.	6	15	1
				„ Stationery	0	5	6
				„ Postages	0	15	6
				„ Secretary's Honorarium	2	12	0
				„ Cash in hand, 31st Dec.	6	0	0
	£22	13	0		£22	13	0

LOCAL FUND.

Receipts.	£	s.	d.	Expenditure.	£	s.	d.
To Cash in hand, 1st Jan., 1918.....	8	17	6	By Congress Delegation	2	5	10
„ Bradford Men's Guild	0	2	6	„ Joint Meeting—Leeds (October			
„ Wilsden	0	2	6	26th, 1918)	1	17	4
„ Silsden.....	0	5	0	„ Conference Teas	0	15	4
				„ Delegation—J. C. Gratton	0	2	6
				„ Cash in hand, 31st Dec., 1918....	4	6	6
	£9	7	6		£9	7	6

HOURS AND WAGES BOARD.

Receipts.	£	s.	d.	Expenditure.	£	s.	d.
To Cash from—				By Cash due to Secretary, 1st Jan.,			
Allerton	0	5	0	1918	0	13	2
Bradford	8	0	0	„ Executive Meetings	2	16	0
Bingley	2	0	0	„ Advisory Council Meetings	7	5	10
Birkenshaw	1	0	0	„ Joint Conference	0	16	6
Buttershaw	0	5	0	„ Delegation to Committee on Pro-			
Clayton	0	15	0	duction	9	13	4
Denholme	0	12	6	„ General Printing	3	15	3
Eccleshill	0	12	6	„ Postages	2	19	9
Great Horton	3	0	0	„ Teas	0	3	8
Harrogate	1	0	0				
Guiseley	0	18	0				
Leeds	3	0	0				
Lees and Cross Roads	0	5	0				
Queensbury	1	10	0				
Silsden	0	5	0				
Skipton	1	10	0				
Sutton Mill	0	5	0				
Rawdon	0	10	0				
Thornton	1	0	0				
Windhill	2	0	0				
Wibsey Slack Side	0	10	0				
Wilsden	0	5	0				
Haworth	1	0	0				
Keighley	2	0	0				
„ Cash due to Secretary	0	15	6				
	£28	3	6		£28	3	6

M. HOPWOOD, Secretary.

No. 2.—BOLTON.

Executive Committee.

Mr. Thomas Barlow (chairman), Farnworth.	Mr. Henry Jackson, Wigan.
„ Thos. Knights (secretary <i>pro. tem.</i>), Radcliffe.	„ Thos. Calland, Little Hulton.
Mrs. S. Smith, Bolton.	„ Ernest Wallwork, Westhoughton.
	„ Wm. Clarke, Chorley.
	„ Thos. H. Orrell, Horwich.

Representative on Educational Committees' Association: Mr. Pollitt, Bolton.

Representative on Sectional Board: Mr. S. Fairbrother, Bolton.

In presenting our report for the year 1918, we regret to have to place on record the fact that during the year we have lost the services of our energetic secretary, Mr. James Monks, who held the position for over ten years, with great credit to himself and with considerable benefit to the movement. Increasing duties in connection with his trade union have been placed upon his shoulders, making it imperative that he should resign his

position as secretary to the association. We are confident that he has endeared himself to a large number of co-operators, and feel sure that everyone will join in wishing him every success in his new sphere of work. We have also to record that a new secretary (Mr. A. Richardson, of Radcliffe) was appointed to the position, and carried out the duties admirably, having just got accustomed to the work when he was stricken down with a serious illness, which resulted in his death in January last. A splendid co-operator and an earnest worker in the cause, we venture to say that the movement can ill afford to lose workers of this description, especially at present, when we are passing through such serious times.

There have been four conferences and five Executive meetings during the year. All of them have been well attended, and we feel sure that if delegates have taken their enthusiasm back to their own societies good work will have been accomplished.

The first conference was held at Farnworth, when Mr. H. Jackson (of Wigan) submitted the question of "A National Co-operative Policy."

The second conference was held at Westhoughton, when Mr. J. Bradshaw (secretary, Sectional Board) introduced Mr. B. Williams' paper on "District and Society Organisation: A Plea for Organised Methods of Propaganda." Mr. Bradshaw supplementing same by observations on organising work.

The third conference was held at Ashton-in-Makerfield, when Mr. Webster (Park Lane) introduced his paper on "Amalgamation of Small Societies," showing in a convincing manner that only by amalgamation could progress be maintained.

The fourth conference was held at Chorley, when Mr. T. Horrocks (assistant secretary, Co-operative Union) introduced the Survey Committee's report and recommendations regarding the constitution of the Co-operative Union.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1918:—

Receipts.	£	s.	d.	Expenditure.	£	s.	d.
To Cash in hand, 1st January, 1918..	6	0	0	By Executive Meetings	8	2	0
„ Cash from North-Western Sectional Board	17	9	6	„ Conferences and other Meetings	9	7	6
				„ Cash in hand, 31st Dec., 1918	6	0	0
	£23	9	6		£23	9	6

LOCAL FUND

Receipts.	£	s.	d.	Expenditure.	£	s.	d.
To Cash in hand, 1st January, 1918 ..	9	12	1	By Attendance at Conferences	7	13	8
„ Subscriptions from Societies	17	5	1	„ Congress.....	7	5	0
				„ Hours and Wages Board	8	12	6
				„ Postage and Stationery	2	0	3
				„ Honorarium, Secretary, Wages Board	1	0	0
				„ Secretary's Salary	2	0	0
				„ Balance in Secretary's hands, 31st Dec., 1918	1	5	8
	£26	17	1		£26	17	1

Audited—
W. BENTLEY.

THOS. KNIGHTS, Secretary (*pro tem.*).

No. 3.—CALDERDALE.

Executive Committee.

Mr. W. Pickles (chairman), Cornholme.	Mr. Arthur Redman, Halifax.
„ A. Binns (secretary), 20, Dean Lane, Sowerby, Sowerby Bridge.	„ Charles Wood, Rastrick.
„ T. Ellison, Hebden Bridge.	„ J. W. Whitworth, Sowerby.
	Mrs. M. Johnson, Sowerby Bridge.

Representative on Sectional Board: Mr. Jos. Greenwood, Hebden Bridge.

Societies included in the Calderdale district can justly claim their share of success during the year 1918, although considerable difficulty has had to be met.

CONFERENCES.

The conferences held have included many practical matters, among which should be mentioned the question of Parliamentary representation. This was discussed at Hebden Bridge on 13th July, 1918, when the peculiar conditions of the Calderdale area were dealt with. Questions respecting co-operative welfare were also submitted to candidates seeking Parliamentary election.

At Brighouse, in November, the Survey Committee's report was given thorough consideration, when it was also ultimately decided to recommend the old method of voting with regard to the constitution of the Union. This was considered to be the most practical and best fitted for the needs of the Calderdale district.

HOURS AND WAGES BOARD.

The District Hours and Wages Board has done much useful work during the past half-year, while the economic situation has been so unstable.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1918 :—

Receipts.	£	s.	d.	Expenditure.	£	s.	d.
To Cash in hand, 1st January, 1918..	6	0	0	By Executive Meetings	6	6	5
„ Cash from North-Western Sectional Board	12	17	4	„ Conferences and other Meetings.	4	1	5
				„ Postages	0	9	6
				„ Secretary's Honorarium	2	0	0
				„ Cash in hand, 31st Dec.	6	0	0
	£18	17	4		£18	17	4

LOCAL FUND.

Receipts.	£	s.	d.	Expenditure.	£	s.	d.
To Cash in hand, 1st January, 1918..	4	11	8	By Conference (Bridge End)	1	10	0
„ Interest	0	2	11	„ Balance in hand, 31st Dec.	8	4	7
	£4	14	7		£4	14	7

HOURS AND WAGES BOARD FUND.

Receipts.	£	s.	d.	Expenditure.	£	s.	d.
To Subscriptions	88	1	0	By Stamps, Printing, &c.	1	7	0
				„ London Delegation, Aug. 28 & 29.,	5	0	0
				„ Committee's Fees and Fares	50	18	0
				„ London Delegation, Oct. 1, 2, & 3	4	17	9
				„ Leeds Delegation, October 2	1	16	6
				„ Leeds „ November	0	15	8
				„ Cash in Bank	16	13	0
				„ Cash in Hand (Secretary's)	6	13	6
	£88	1	0		£88	1	0

A. BINNS, Secretary.

4.—CHESHIRE AND NORTH WALES.

Executive Committee.

Mr. W. Cheetham (chairman), St. Helens.	Mr. C. W. Fawcett, Ruabon.
Councillor Wright (secretary), 56, Duke Street, Southport.	„ J. Jarman, Warrington.
Mr. H. J. Beeston, Liverpool.	„ W. Read New Brighton.
	„ W. Williams, Chester.

Representative from the Co-operative Union : Mr. W. R. Blair, Liverpool.

With the end of the war in sight, the relaxation of some of the rigid rationing regulations, and the total withdrawal of others; with the more plentiful supply of foodstuffs, and consequently less anxiety in regard to them, societies are eagerly looking forward to a great extension of the movement. The inhabitants in several places in North Wales, who have been prevented from joining our ranks through the registration scheme, are extremely anxious now for the Executive, who have been in close touch with them for some time past, to assist them in establishing branches. The Executive will proceed with this work at the earliest possible moment. Generally the Executive are opposed to the formation of small societies on account of the greater management expenses, but, sometimes, owing to geographical conditions, this is unavoidable. When, however, societies are within easy distance of each other the Executive encourage amalgamation, and at each conference during the year this has been advocated. One such instance has been effected, viz. : Queensferry Society having taken over Penyfford Society as a branch; the neighbouring societies graciously relinquishing any "rights of territory" to enable this to be done.

DIRECT PARLIAMENTARY AND LOCAL REPRESENTATION.

Arising out of the paper read at the Warrington Conference in February, 1918, on this question, the district secretary was instructed to write to all societies in the association asking what was being done in the matter. Five questions were submitted, and out of forty societies twelve only replied, seven of which were favourable to the Union taking up the matter. The twenty-eight societies from which no replies were received evidently took little or no interest in the question.

SPECIAL CONFERENCES.

A special conference, under the joint auspices of the Executive and the Hours and Wages Board, on the subject of "Payment of Wages to Employees during Sickness," was held at Garston on 17th August, 1918. The district secretary had previously solicited information on the methods of payment, and replies had been received from practically every society, which the secretary tabulated for the information of the delegates. The replies revealed a great diversity in the methods of payment, and the secretary was instructed to send copies of his tabulation to the societies for their consideration, also to call

another meeting for the further discussion of the subject. This was held at Birkenhead on 28th September, 1918, when certain conditions governing sick pay were adopted.

QUARTERLY CONFERENCES.

The first conference was held at Trevor, near Llangollen, under the auspices of the Cefn Society, when Mr. C. W. Fawcett (Executive) read his paper on "Some Co-operative Topics—Present and Prospective."

At the annual conference held at Port Sunlight on 24th August, 1918, a review of the Trade Report of the Survey Committee was introduced by Mr. A. Jones (secretary, Port Sunlight).

The ballot for the Executive resulted in the re-election of Messrs. Jarman, Cheetham, Beeston, Read, and Fawcett, and the election of Mr. A. Jones (Port Sunlight) in place of Mr. Williams (Chester). Councillor Wright (Southport) was returned unopposed, completing his thirty-first year as district secretary.

The paper by Mr. T. Horrocks on "The Recommendations regarding the Constitution of the Co-operative Union" was read by Mr. W. Gregory, J.P., at the conference held at Whiston on 23rd November, 1918.

The fourth conference took place at Birkenhead on 22nd February, 1919, when Mr. Cheetham (chairman of the Executive) spoke in sympathetic terms of the loss the movement generally, and this association in particular, had sustained in the death of Mr. Jarman (a member of the Executive). Mr. Pickup (secretary, Birkenhead) had prepared a paper on "Reconstruction," but owing to his indisposition this was read by Mr. McNaught (president, Birkenhead Society).

All the conferences have been exceedingly well attended, and representatives from the men's guilds, women's guilds, and education committees have regularly taken part in the debates.

EXECUTIVE MEETINGS.

A summary of the minutes of each Executive meeting was read at the succeeding conference, thus keeping the delegates completely in touch with the work being performed by the Executive throughout the district.

Out of 40 societies in this association, with a total membership of 139,034, there are now only three societies, with an aggregate membership of 276, remaining non-members of the Co-operative Union.

Occasional references have been made at the conferences to the work of the Hours and Wages Board, and to the efforts put forth to secure equitable conditions of hours and wages for the employees. The district secretary's cyclostyled returns have been, as before, much appreciated by the delegates, showing, as they do, the progress in sales and membership of the societies from which returns have been received.

The Executive cordially thank the committees of the entertaining societies for their hospitality, and the Co-operative Wholesale Society for so kindly allowing the Executive to meet in its Liverpool Office.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1918:—

Receipts.	£	s.	d.	Expenditure.	£	s.	d.
To Cash in hand, 1st January, 1918..	6	0	0	By Executive Meetings	11	13	11
„ Cash from North-Western Sectional Board.....	54	15	6	„ Conferences and other Meetings..	17	3	0
				„ Hours and Wages Board	14	14	0
				„ Propaganda	1	3	1
				„ Congress Reception Committee...	2	15	9
				„ Stationery	0	7	6
				„ Postages	6	18	3
				„ Cash in hand, 31st Dec.....	6	0	0
	£60	15	6		£60	15	6

ROBERT WRIGHT, Secretary.

No. 5.—DEWSBURY.

Executive Committee.

Mr. George Lucas (chairman), Ossett.	Mr. S. Hall, Cleckheaton.
„ T. H. Thomson (secretary), Batley.	„ T. Gill, Wakefield.
„ J. Kershaw, Batley.	„ Harry France, Heckmondwike.
„ Edmund Stansfield, Morley.	

Representative on Sectional Board: Mr. Thos. Way, Wakefield.

The work of the association has been carried on during the year with the loyal support of the societies, and considering the many difficulties with which we have been confronted we are of opinion that our work has strengthened the position of co-operation in our locality. Three conferences were held during the year.

The first was held on 16th February, 1918, at Batley, under the auspices of the Birstall Society. Mr. Kershaw, chairman of the Executive, read the paper: "Scheme for Co-operative Parliamentary Representation." He emphasised the great importance of the subject, having in mind the great and organised opposition which the success and expansion of co-operation had brought into being. The Executive had, prior to the conference, sent out a list of questions asking (a) if the subject had been placed before the members; (b) if a favourable or unfavourable reply had been sent to the Union's question on the matter; (c) if it was considered that the constituency in which the society was situated was likely to be contested by a co-operative candidate; and (d) if a local committee or council had been formed to deal with the work. Eighteen societies, representing 63,300 members, sent in replies; five societies, representing 4,120 members, failed to do so. Disappointment was expressed at the result of the inquiry, but it was pointed out that the Executive had no plenary powers in the matter, and could only move as fast as societies would allow.

The second conference was held at Ravensthorpe, under the auspices of the Dewsbury Society, on Saturday, 10th August, 1918. Mr. Gregory (Co-operative Union) read the section of the Survey Committee's report bearing on the constitution of the Union. Strong exception was taken to some of the proposed changes. The suggested method of election, the proposed council of auxiliary bodies, the finances of the Union, the setting up of a permanent

executive, were all criticised by a number of delegates. Mr. Gregory replied to the various points raised in an able and vigorous manner.

The November conference was held at Gomersal on Saturday, 9th November, 1918. Mr. J. Bradshaw (secretary, North-Western Section Board) spoke on the Trade Section of the Survey Committee's report, giving a full and convincing address on the necessity for trading development on the lines suggested. He called the attention of the district to the fact that the trade per member in the Dewsbury district had fallen from £28. 3s. per member in 1901 to £26. 7s. in 1911, while during the same period the share capital per member had fallen from £18. 3s. to £17. 7s. It was pointed out in the discussion that the figures quoted could be fully accounted for by the adoption of open membership by some of the societies, and by the reduction of the rates of interest paid on members' shares during the ten years period.

Arising out of the conferences held on the Survey Committee's report the Executive decided to convene a conference early in 1919 in order to focus local opinion on the various points to which exception is taken by societies, and to submit considered amendments to the proposals to the forthcoming Congress.

The trading departments of societies which last year showed considerable shrinkage in sales, have now recovered their position and are increasing steadily week by week. We look forward now to rapid development in the work of our societies, fully convinced that the lessons learned during the past 4½ years will be remembered by all co-operators, and the power of concerted action more fully realised by all. The various productive works in the district found great difficulty in carrying on during the first ten months of 1918, but are now resuming their former activities with excellent prospects of largely increased business.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1918:—

Receipts.			Expenditure.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Cash in hand, 1st January, 1918..	6	0 0	By Executive Meetings	12	1 6
„ Cash from North-Western Sectional Board.....	80	1 11	„ Conferences and other Meetings .	8	11 11
			„ Hours and Wages Board	4	3 6
			„ Propaganda	2	2 0
			„ Stationery, &c.	0	5 6
			„ Postages	0	17 6
			„ Secretary's Honorarium	2	0 0
			„ Cash in hand, 31st Dec.....	6	0 0
	£86	1 11		£86	1 11

T. H. THOMSON, Secretary.

No. 6.—EAST YORKSHIRE.

Executive Committee.

Mr. G. Goodenough (president), Castleford.	Mr. F. Bradley, Selby.
„ Jos. Nicholson (secretary), York.	„ T. Kirby, Market Weighton.
„ B. Webster, Leeds.	„ T. C. Collier, Scarborough.
„ Geo. Wilson, Beverley.	„ W. Mellor, Kippax.
	„ H. Knight, Hull.

Representative from Central Board: Mr. G. Goodenough, Castleford.

Through all the difficulties which co-operative trade has had to contend with the movement in this district has made good progress, all the societies in the above district showing increases in membership and trade. There has been at least one co-operator in the district standing in the Labour interest as a Parliamentary candidate. Though not successful, a vigorous propaganda on his behalf provided an excellent advertisement for the movement, and resulted in an increase in trade in the district of about £3,000 per week.

The Executive have held four meetings during the year and four conferences. The first of these was held on 16th February, when Mr. Goodenough (Central Board) introduced the draft scheme for Parliamentary representation; the second on 11th May, when Mr. F. Frankland (manager of Market Weighton) read a paper on "Cash *versus* Credit Trading"; the third on 31st August, when Mr. A. Richardson (general manager, York Society) introduced for discussion the Trade Report of the Survey Committee; and the fourth on 23rd November, when Mr. J. T. Bamforth (secretary, York Society) introduced the questions of "Finance" and the "Constitution and Membership of the Union." The whole series were well attended, and the keenest interest taken in the various subjects.

The thanks of the Executive and the delegates are tendered to the York Society for providing accommodation for the whole of the meetings during the past year.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1918:—

Receipts.	£	s.	d.	Expenditure.	£	s.	d.
To Cash in hand, 1st January, 1918..	6	0	0	By Executive Meetings	14	9	9
„ Cash from North-Western Sectional Board.....	34	13	8	„ Conferences and other Meetings.	17	14	11
				„ Postages	0	9	0
				„ Secretary's Honorarium	2	0	0
				„ Cash in hand, 31st Dec.	6	0	0
	£40	13	8		£40	13	8

LOCAL FUND.

Receipts.	£	s.	d.	Expenditure.	£	s.	d.
To Balance in hand, 1st January, 1918	6	10	0	Conferences, &c.....	7	15	11
„ Received from societies.....	7	8	0	Balance in hand, 31st Dec.....	6	2	1
	£13	18	0		£13	18	0

J. NICHOLSON, Secretary.

No. 7.—HUDDERSFIELD.

Executive Committee.

Mr. E. Booth (chairman), Wooldale.	Mr. F. Ellis (treasurer), Crosland Moor.
„ L. Matthews (district secretary), Huddersfield.	„ Joseph Bland, Huddersfield.
„ J. Pogson (statistical secretary), Netherton.	„ H. Tinker, Marsden.
	„ W. Buckley, Hillhouse.
	„ T. L. Jenkinson, Slaithwaite.

Representative on Sectional Board: Mr. E. Booth, Wooldale, near Huddersfield.

Representative on Educational Committees' Association: Mr. J. S. Armitage, J.P., Huddersfield.

Six conferences and six executive meetings have been held during the year. The attendance at the conferences has been very good. Below is a summary of them.

The first conference was held on Saturday, 27th April, 1918, in the Education Department, 2, Princess Street, Mr. Fred Ellis in the chair. Owing to the absence of Mr. E. Booth, the question of "Parliamentary Representation" was introduced by Mr. James Raisey.

The second conference was held on 20th July in the Education Department, 2, Princess Street. Owing to the unavoidable absence of Mr. Booth, who was away at a special meeting of the Hours and Wages Board, Mr. Fred Ellis occupied the chair. At this conference the officers for the year were elected. The reports of the secretary and statistical secretary were, after discussion, duly adopted. Mr. Mellor (Marsden) suggested that something should be done to get the remainder of the societies into the Co-operative Union.

The third conference was held on Saturday, 24th August, 1918, Mr. J. Pogson in the chair. Mr. Booth, on behalf of the Executive, introduced the first portion of the Survey Committee's report, namely, "The Constitution of the Co-operative Union." Mr. Booth traced the growth of the Union, and explained the proposed changes, and urged the delegates to consider them carefully, so that they would be in a position to vote intelligently on the matter at the Carlisle Congress.

The fourth conference was held on Saturday, 16th November, 1918, in the Education Department, Mr. Booth in the chair. In opening the meeting Mr. Booth expressed the deep sense of satisfaction they all had in knowing that the terms of the armistice had been accepted and duly signed by the parties concerned. Mr. James Pollitt (Labour advisor) presented the trade section of the Survey Committee's report.

The fifth conference was held on Saturday, 8th March, 1919, Mr. E. Booth in the chair. Professor Hall introduced the education section of the Survey Committee's report. Professor Hall's message was that the rank and file have not yet sufficiently realised the great part education would be called upon to play if our movement is to secure the changes urgently needed.

The sixth conference was held on Saturday evening, 8th March, 1919, when the seven points regarding Co-operative Reconstruction were introduced by well-known local co-operators. The Executive are to be congratulated on their new departure in having each point dealt with by a separate individual.

If the movement is to secure larger representation in the House of Commons societies will have to awake from the deep apathy and indifference into which they have fallen.

The question of amalgamation is now very active in the district, and we are hopeful that ere long we shall see not forty individual societies, but one big society serving the whole district. The time has now surely come when we need to be co-operators, not competitors.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1918:—

Receipts.	£	s.	d.	Expenditure.	£	s.	d.
To Cash in hand, 1st January, 1918..	6	0	0	By Executive Meetings	4	8	10
„ Cash from North-Western Sectional Board	16	1	3	„ Conferences and other Meetings .	8	12	0
				„ Postages	0	17	11
				„ Hire of Rooms	0	2	6
				„ Secretary's Honorarium	2	0	0
				„ Cash in hand, 31st Dec., 1918....	6	0	0
	£22	1	3		£22	1	3

LOCAL FUND.

Receipts.	£	s.	d.	Expenditure.	£	s.	d.
To Cash in hand, 1918 ..	4	15	6	By Conferences	2	8	3
„ Subscriptions from Societies	7	17	0	„ Executive Meetings	1	19	5
„ From members of Executive	1	15	0	„ Secretary's expenses	0	7	9
				„ Printing	0	13	3
				„ Postages	1	15	10
				„ Caretaker	0	2	6
				„ Balance in hand	7	0	6
	£14	7	6		£14	7	6

L. MATTHEWS, Secretary.

NO. 8.—MACCLESFIELD, CREWE, AND DISTRICT.

Executive Committee.

Mr. J. J. Carding (chairman), Leek.	Mr. S. Hunt, Burslem.
„ S. Yates (secretary), Stoke-on-Trent.	„ John Symonds, Silverdale.
„ G. H. Fletcher, Macclesfield.	„ W. Hobbs, Sandbach.
	„ F. Lomas, Congleton.

Representative on Sectional Board : Alderman F. Hayward, J.P., Burslem.

The societies in the Macclesfield and Crewe district have emerged successfully from the many trials encountered during the past year, and the Executive Committee are sanguine that they will profit by their experiences, and enter as quickly as possible on the work of reconstruction. The Executive Committee, therefore, commend to all management committees the circular issued by the Co-operative Union dealing with Co-operative Reconstruction. The Executive Committee have reason to be satisfied with the work of co-operators at the General Election, successful candidates in some of the constituencies in the district having expressed their thanks to co-operators for assistance rendered. Members of the women's guilds also put in much useful work.

CONFERENCES.

Four conferences were held during the year. As a result of considerable discussion at various conferences it was felt desirable that the rules of the association should be amended, and at the annual meeting held at Macclesfield in August, a new method of electing the Executive and district secretary was decided upon. Formerly the members of the Executive and the district secretary were elected at the annual meeting without previous nomination,

but the rules were amended to provide for nominations, signed by the secretary of the nominating society, being handed in to the secretary at the conference preceding the annual meeting, and voting papers will be circulated to societies at least 28 days prior to the annual meeting. The rules were also amended in other respects and brought up to date. The district secretary (Mr. J. Compston) intimated that he did not seek re-election, and Mr. S. Yates (Butt Lane) was appointed to the position. The election of District Executive resulted in Mr. W. Hobbs (Sandbach) and Mr. F. Lomas (Congleton) being appointed in the places of Mr. C. Faor (Crewe) and Mr. J. Casson (Stockport), the latter retiring after many years' service.

At a conference held at Woodley in February, Miss E. M. Bradley, M.A., (Co-operative Union) gave a splendid address setting forth the woman's position in the co-operative movement, and a very profitable discussion followed.

The conference held at Crewe in May dealt mainly with matters affecting alterations to rules, and much good was accomplished by an interesting and instructive review of the political situation as it affected co-operators by Alderman F. Hayward, J.P. The subject for discussion at Stockport in November was the "Survey Committee's Recommendations on the Constitution of the Co-operative Union." Mr. T. Horrocks read the paper he had prepared upon this important subject, and an interesting discussion followed.

The members of the District Executive desire to place on record their appreciation of the services rendered to co-operation by Alderman F. Hayward, J.P., and congratulate him on being appointed chairman of the United and Sectional Boards.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1918:—

Receipts.			Expenditure.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Cash in hand, 1st Jan., 1918 ..	6	0 0	By Executive Meetings	9	15 10
„ Cash from North-Western Sectional Board.....	33	12 3	„ Conferences and other Meetings.	19	11 2
			„ Hours and Wages Board.....	1	12 11
			„ Postages	0	12 4
			„ Secretary's Honorarium	2	0 0
			„ Cash in hand, 31st Dec., 1918....	6	0 0
	£39	12 3		£39	12 3

S. YATES, District Secretary.

No. 9.—MANCHESTER.

Executive Committee.

Mr. Daniel Pogson (chairman), Burnage.	Councillor Allen Shaw, J.P., Newton, Hyde.
Councillor James Thompson, J.P. (secretary), Ashton.	Councillor Edgar Whiteley, Burnage.
Mr. W. H. Kirkland, Pendleton.	Mr. Geo. J. Wilkinson, Marple.

Representative on the Sectional Board: Mr. A. Horricks, Weaste.

Representative of the Educational Committees' Association:

Mr. J. F. Ashworth, Urmston.

The Executive have arranged and carried out the following conferences :—

Date.	Place.	Subject.	Writer and Reader.
1918. April 13	Holyoake House, Manchester	Problems of the War in Store Management.	Mr. Robinson (Pendleton).
July 13	Holyoake House, Manchester	Survey Committee's Recommendations <i>re</i> The Constitution of the Union.	Mr. T. Horrocks (Co-operative Union).
Oct. 12	Holyoake House, Manchester	The Trade Section of the Committee's Report.	Mr. J. Pollitt (Co-operative Union).
1919. Feb. 22	Droylsden	Survey Committee's Report <i>re</i> The Constitution of the Union.	Mr. J. Bradshaw (Co-operative Union).

Through the difficulties of travelling and the societies' difficulties in providing teas for delegates the first three conferences were held at Holyoake House. At the last one, on 22nd February, the Droylsden Society very kindly came to the rescue and provided, not only a room for conference, but also a free tea. Many of the difficulties of the societies existent during the war have not yet ended, but with the return of many employees difficulties of staffing at least will come to an end.

At the first conference Mr. Robinson, of Pendleton, very ably dealt with the difficulties societies experienced in rationed articles, such as sugar, butter, and margarine, being on the datum period, which put societies in so much worse a position than private traders, because they were rationed on the quantities supplied before the war, when so many members went elsewhere for these articles and so punished both loyal and disloyal members. This was, to some extent, remedied by the datum period being dispensed with. At this conference Mr. Thompson was elected district secretary for the 37th successive year, Mr. J. Bradshaw as assistant secretary, and representatives from the following societies to form the Executive :—Compstall, Droylsden, Eccles, Hyde, and Manchester and Salford. Mr. Ashworth was appointed as the representative of the Educational Committees' Association, and the following were elected to serve as members of the Hours and Wages Board :—Messrs. G. J. Wilkinson (Compstall), W. Leatherbarrow (Glossop), D. Gibson (Manchester and Salford), J. H. Rankine (Prestwich), Councillor A. Shaw, J.P., (Hyde), G. Towers (Blackley), J. S. Sharples (Clifton), J. Stopford (Droylsden), W. Pickles (Pendleton), and J. A. Hamer (Denton).

At both the second and fourth conferences the recommendations of the Survey Committee *re* the Constitution of the Co-operative Union were discussed. The Executive thought the delegates had not sufficiently grasped the difference between the old constitution and the new recommendations at the first conference, so decided to discuss them again. The delegates did not desire any change in the method of the election of the Sectional Board. They thought the recommended "National Co-operative Auxiliary Council for Educational and General Purposes" far too large and had no executive power,

but somewhat favoured the appointment of a permanent or paid executive of the Union. Satisfaction was expressed that the Union was seeking power to get societies to abide by its decisions in cases of disputes *re* boundaries between societies.

The third conference on the trade section of the report was ably introduced by Mr. Pollitt and resulted in a good and useful discussion, and a resolution was passed impressing upon the delegates the great importance of the suggestions made by the Survey Committee with regard to the trade of the movement, and suggesting the advisability of management committees seriously considering the proposals made.

At the second conference the following resolution was passed:—"That the delegates present at this conference pledge themselves to see that the question is introduced to their committee and members." This has been followed by visits from the Executive and correspondence with the following societies:—Clifton, Pendleton, Glossop, Hadfield, Hollingworth, Droylsden, Denton, Haughton Green, Compstall, and Hyde. At these visits the Executive strongly emphasised the importance of open membership, seeking to prevent withdrawals by following up grievances with explanations, opening up share capital deposits to the full amount of £200 for each member, encouraging members to leave their dividend and interest in the society, to hold meetings of members to discuss these matters and impress upon them their importance, and also that if societies are to resist the efforts of the private traders, chambers of commerce, &c., to make them pay income tax, and place other disabilities upon them they must have their own representatives in Parliament. We are sorry that the Mossley Division has failed to return Mr. W. H. Brown as our M.P. He fought splendidly and deserved to win.

The Hours and Wages Board has been very active during the year and had many difficult problems to solve.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1918:—

Receipts.			Expenditure.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Cash in hand, 1st Jan., 1918.....	6	0 0	By Executive Meetings	8	6 7
„ Cash from North-Western Sectional Board	28	5 11	„ Conferences and other Meetings..	12	5 10
			„ Congress Reception Committee..	2	1 4
			„ Hours and Wages Board	1	7 2
			„ Joint Meeting	0	5 9
			„ Propaganda	0	13 6
			„ Postages	1	5 9
			„ Secretary's Honorarium	2	0 0
			„ Cash in hand, 31st Dec., 1918	6	0 0
	£34	5 11		£34	5 11

JAS. THOMPSON, Secretary.

No. 10.—NORTH-EAST LANCASHIRE.

Executive Committee.

Mr. J. Sharples (chairman), Blackburn.	Mr. Joseph Snape, Padiham.
„ John R. Shuttleworth (secretary), Accrington.	„ T. Haworth, Darwen.
Coun. Richard Hargreaves, Barrowford.	„ W. Slater, Accrington.
Mr. S. Blakeborough, J.P., Burnley.	„ Burns A. Bracewell, Accrington.
	„ H. Law, Brierfield.

Representative from Sectional Board: Councillor Wm. Dewhurst, Colne.

We have held during the congress year four ordinary and three special conferences.

The first conference was held at Daisyfield on 23rd February, 1918, when Mr. North (president of the Daisyfield Society) read Mr. Sutcliffe's paper entitled "The Problem of Dividends in View of Controlled Prices of Commodities." A very good discussion ensued, after which a resolution was passed requesting the Ministry of Food immediately to put into force a national compulsory system of rationing of essential foodstuffs for the purpose of securing an equitable distribution thereof amongst all classes of the community.

At the second conference, held at Great Harwood on 25th May, 1918, the chairman alluded to the death of the late Mr. J. C. Beckett (of St. Annes, late of Darwen), who had been an auditor for this association for a number of years. A vote of sympathy was forwarded to the family of the deceased gentleman.

Miss Walton (of Colne) read Professor F. Hall's paper entitled "Co-operation and After-War Problems."

The third conference was held at Burnley on 31st August, 1918, when Mr. Alderman Houghton, J.P. (Sectional Board), introduced the trade section of the Survey Committee's report.

The fourth conference was held at Blackburn on 8th December, 1918, when Mr. Sharples (president of the Industrial Society) spoke on the recommendations of the Survey Committee *re* the Constitution and Administration of the Union.

A good attendance at the conferences has been well maintained, the average being 154.

The first special conference was held at Nelson on 9th March, 1918, when Mr. Sharples (of Blackburn) gave an address to members of the Boards of Management only, on the constitution and rules of the District Association, with suggestions for their amendment.

The second special conference, held at Great Harwood on 25th May, 1918, was convened with the object of further considering the business of the previous conference held at Nelson, with the result that a sub-committee, consisting of Messrs. Sharples, Parker, Hothersall, Edwards, Blakeborough, and the Secretary, was appointed to consider the advisability of nominating individuals, and not societies, as at present, and that the rules be so altered to admit this.

The third special conference was called at Padiham on 13th July, 1918, to adopt or otherwise deal with the sub-committee's recommendations.

The first election under the new system was announced at the Blackburn conference on 8th December, 1918; when four of the members of the Executive were elected for two years, and the remaining four for one year.

The Hours and Wages Board has been very active during the year, owing to the demands being made on societies for a reduction of hours and increase of wages by the respective unions.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1918:—

Receipts.			Expenditure.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Cash in hand, 1st Jan., 1918 ..	6	0 0	By Executive Meetings	7	4 11
„ Cash from North-Western			„ Conferences and other Meetings	7	8 11
Sectional Board	22	8 11	„ Propaganda	2	0 2
			„ Deputations	1	14 1
			„ Joint Meeting	1	4 2
			„ Postages	1	1 8
			„ Secretary's Honorarium	2	0 0
			„ Cash in hand, 31st Dec., 1918	6	0 0
	£28	8 11		£28	8 11

J. R. SHUTTLEWORTH, Secretary.

NO. 11.—NORTH LANCASHIRE.

Executive Committee.

Mr. J. Catterall (chairman), Preston.	Mr. R. Richmond, Fleetwood.
„ J. Hall (secretary <i>pro tem.</i>), Fleetwood.	„ W. Hoggarth, J.P., Lancaster.
„ T. Kay, Longridge.	„ E. Garside, Blackpool.

Representative from Sectional Board: Mr. W. Gregory, J.P., Preston.

Reports from societies in this district show a considerable advance in membership and sales.

During the year four conferences have been held at which instructive and educational subjects on questions of co-operative interest have been discussed.

The first conference was held at Leyland on 16th February, Mr. Gregory introducing the question of "Co-operative Representation in Parliament." The discussion that followed proved that the subject was one taken very seriously by the delegates.

The second conference was held at Fleetwood on 25th May, Mr. Gregory again dealing with the subject of Parliamentary Representation, and the discussion that followed was again of a very high standard; as a result a strong Parliamentary council has been formed in the district.

The third and annual conference was held at Longridge on 31st August, Mr. Gregory introducing the Survey Committee's report. Many delegates took part in the discussion and opinions varied considerably.

The fourth conference of the year was held at Higher Walton on 30th November, the subject for discussion being Professor Hall's paper on the trade section of the Survey Committee's report. This was introduced by Mr. T. Kay, J.P., and the debate that followed was of a very high standard.

The Hours and Wages Board has held frequent meetings during the year, and many demands for increased wages and decreased hours have been brought before them for consideration. So far these have been satisfactorily arranged, and we trust to maintain the confidence of the societies and the employees.

We regret to report that we have during the year lost a great friend to the co-operative movement in Mr. J. Parr, J.P., secretary to the association, who passed away after a very short illness in the early part of December. He had, by his splendid work, gained the respect and admiration of all co-operators in the North Lancashire district, and our deep condolence is extended to his widow and family.

The executive committee desire to express their appreciation of the generosity of the Preston Society in providing accommodation for the meetings of the executive committee and the Hours and Wages Board.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1918:—

Receipts.	£	s.	d.	Expenditure.	£	s.	d.
To Cash in hand, 1st Jan., 1918	6	0	0	By Executive Meetings	8	4	4
„ Cash from North-Western Sectional Board.....	26	1	10	„ Conferences and other Meetings.	16	5	6
				„ Postages	1	4	6
				„ Hours and Wages Board	0	7	6
				„ Cash in hand, 31st Dec., 1918... ..	6	0	0
	£32	1	10		£32	1	10

J. HALL, Secretary (*pro tem.*).

NO. 12.—NORTH LONSDALE.

Executive Committee.

Mr. W. Lewney, J.P. (chairman), Dalton-in-Furness.	Mr. H. W. Hague, Carnforth.
„ G. Richardson (secretary), Barrow.	„ J. H. Parr, Kendal.
„ J. Ireland, Ulverston.	„ W. H. Hockaday, Millom.
	„ W. Lyon, J.P., Barrow.

Representative on Sectional Board: Mr. W. Swindlehurst, Barrow.

In presenting our report for the year we have to say that, considering the abnormal times through which we are passing, presenting, as they have done, difficulties both with regard to labour, prices, and shortage of commodities, the co-operative movement has played a large part in steadying prices, and in this respect we may reasonably claim that co-operation has served not only its members, but the community in general, well. With the removal of many restrictions societies will again be able to press forward with the work of extending their trade and spheres of usefulness. The executive committee has kept in close touch with the various matters affecting the interests of the societies in the district.

Two conferences—six executive and four meetings of the Hours and Wages Board—have been held, and all claims on behalf of the employees have been mutually settled.

The Barrow-in-Furness Society has commenced farming on a fairly large scale.

The first conference was held at Kirkby on 27th April, when Mr. Walker read the paper on "Co-operative Societies and Income Tax : A Crisis and How to Meet It."

At the second conference, held at Carnforth on 21st December, Mr. J. Thompson, J.P., gave an excellent digest of the Report of the Survey Committee to the Liverpool (1918) Congress.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1918:—

Receipts.			Expenditure.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Cash in hand, 1st Jan., 1918.....	6	0 0	By Executive Meetings	15	17 7
„ Cash from North-Western Sectional Board.....	31	18 1	„ Conferences and other Meetings	9	5 8
			„ Hours and Wages Board	0	19 0
			„ Joint Meetings	2	18 4
			„ Postages	0	17 6
			„ Secretary's Honorarium	2	0 0
			„ Cash in hand, 31st Dec., 1918	6	0 0
	£37	18 1		£37	18 1

GEORGE RICHARDSON, Secretary.

No. 13.—OLDHAM.

Executive Committee.

Alderman F. Houghton, J.P. (president), Oldham.	Mr. A. E. Dickin, Stalybridge.
Mr. H. Whitehead (secretary), Dobcross.	Councillor H. Sheard, J.P., Ashton.
„ George Heath, Oldham.	Mr. H. Hudson, Greenfield.
„ Benjamin Whitehead, Shaw.	„ F. Broadbent, Uppermill.
	„ J. T. Gregory, Oldham.

Representative from the Educational Committees' Association :

Mr. Gale, Oldham.

Representative on Sectional Board : Alderman F. Houghton, J.P., Oldham.

One notable feature in connection with the report of this district is the keen interest taken in the conferences. The attendance was invariably good, and the discussions upon the papers presented showed a desire to become acquainted with the problems which confront the movement.

We have had changes in the personnel of the executive. On 20th April, 1918, Mr. David Lawton died. He had been a member of the executive from 1895, and by his kindly manner and unassuming nature he endeared himself to all those who knew him. He was a stalwart champion of the movement, and most of his spare time, which other persons would have claimed as leisure, he devoted to furthering the interests of the movement. He contributed

many papers to the conferences, and his example has left an impression on us which will not easily be effaced.

On 22nd June, 1918, Mr. Wm. Hall resigned the district secretaryship, a position he had held for over 30 years. The executive regretted his decision, but felt that length of service warranted him in asking to be relieved of the responsibility of office. His duties as secretary had been admirably done, and he leaves us with the very best wishes for his future welfare.

Experiments in week-end schools have been made by the two Oldham societies with very good results. Other educational committees will be encouraged to launch out in the same direction. Educational efforts of this character are to be encouraged, as students no doubt feel they are getting more definite results from the close application required in the study of a particular subject.

During the year three conferences have been held, at which two papers have been discussed.

The first conference was held on 22nd June, 1918, when it was intended that the first ten pages of Prof. Hall's paper, entitled "Co-operation and After-War Problems," should be discussed but the time of the conference being taken up with matters of local interest and the election of the executive discussion of the subject had to be postponed.

The next conference was held on Saturday, 19th October, 1918, when the whole of Prof. Hall's paper on "Co-operation and After-War Problems" was discussed. The subject was introduced by Alderman Fred Houghton, J.P. (president of the association). It was generally felt that the after-war problems would be many and pressing, and the points introduced and emphasised by Prof. Hall were thoroughly discussed by the conference. So much interest was awakened that it was suggested the paper should be sent round to the societies in the district to be considered by them individually.

The next conference was held on 18th January, 1919, when the recommendations regarding the constitution of the Co-operative Union were introduced by Alderman Houghton, J.P., it being felt by the executive that he being a representative of the Union would be able to put the subject before the delegates with inside knowledge and he performed this work admirably. To some of the proposals the conference agreed, but to others they took decided objection, notably with regard to the Joint Propaganda Committee and permanent Executive of the Union. The conference was clearly of opinion that a case had not been made out for changes in those directions.

All the conferences have been held on the premises of the Oldham Industrial Society, to the committee of which the thanks of the societies are due.

At the conclusion of the last conference a presentation was made to Mr. Hall, in recognition of the splendid services he had rendered as secretary to the district. The presentation was made on behalf of all the societies that had subscribed, and consisted of a wallet of Treasury Notes.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1918:—

Receipts.			Expenditure.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Cash in hand, 1st January, 1918..	6	0 0	By Executive Meetings	8	1 7
„ Cash from North-Western Sectional Board.....	17	0 9	„ Conferences and other Meetings..	6	18 6
			„ Hours and Wages Board	0	8 6
			„ Postages	0	12 2
			„ Secretary's Honorarium	1	0 0
			„ Cash in hand, 31st Dec., 1918	6	0 0
	£23	0 9		£23	0 9

H. WHITEHEAD, Secretary.

NO. 14.—ROCHDALE.

Executive Committee.

Mr. C. A. Cook (chairman), Wardle.	Mr. Jas. Hunting, Elton, near Bury.
„ A. Johnson (secretary), Heywood.	„ J. T. Greenwood, Heywood.
„ Thos. Rigby, Bury.	„ J. W. Charnley, Whitworth.
„ Wm. Holt, Milnrow.	„ Mr. T. Parkinson, Rochdale.

Representative on Sectional Board: Mr. Benj. Woolfenden, Rochdale.

Representative on Educational Committees' Association:

Mr. J. C. Hill, Bury.

After 35 years as chairman of the association (from its inception) Mr. Robert Holt (Co-operative Wholesale Society) has retired, leaving behind him a splendid record of faithful and valuable service. The societies comprising the district showed their esteem and appreciation in a practical manner on Saturday, 13th October, 1918, by presenting him with a nickel silver tea and coffee service and oak waiter, and his daughter (Mrs. Bamford) with a silver mesh bag, as a memento of the self-sacrifice of her late mother and herself, which enabled Mr. Holt to carry out his duties so assiduously. The presentation took place in the Rochdale Pioneers' Boardroom, the whole proceedings being well worthy of this unique event. The good wishes of all go with him in his retirement.

Mr. C. A. Cook (Littleborough) was elected to the vacant chairmanship.

Four conferences have been held during the year. Opening at Littleborough on 19th January, Mr. J. Bradshaw outlined the scheme adopted by the National Emergency Conference held in London in October, 1917, and, following a clearly defined exposition of the scheme, a resolution in support was carried unanimously.

At the second conference, held at Whitworth on 27th April, Mr. N. H. Cooper, deputising for Prof. Hall, dealt with "Co-operation and After-War Problems" in his usual effective and informative manner.

On Saturday, 13th July, at Milnrow, Alderman Fred Houghton dealt with the Survey Committee's Report on the Constitution of the Co-operative Union, and cleared up a number of points not generally known relating to the Union.

The final conference was held at Rochdale (Pioneers' premises) on 13th October, Mr. N. H. Cooper giving a *résumé* of the Survey Committee's Report

on Trade. As a result of his exposition practical results have followed, *i.e.*, societies placing more capital with the Co-operative Wholesale Society and bringing their methods up to date.

The district laundry, notwithstanding the heavy handicap of D.O.R.A. Regulations, has done very well under trying conditions and can now look forward with confidence to a growing trade, although faced with the injustice of being compelled to pay a higher standard rate than the private laundry proprietors.

In common with other bodies dealing with conditions of labour, the Hours and Wages Board have had a very busy and trying time. Substantial increases in wages have been granted, and a 48 hours working week adopted.

Our thanks are due to the societies which entertained the various conferences, and they are to be commended for readiness in responding to the call in face of the food difficulty.

Interest in the subjects under review was evidenced by the fact that attendances have been above the average and much valuable information has been imparted to the delegates, who have shown an intelligent grasp of the various questions under discussion, and so the Rochdale district again reports progress.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1918:—

Receipts.			Expenditure.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Cash in hand, 1st January, 1918..	6	0 0	By Executive Meetings	6	11 6
„ Cash from North-Western Sectional Board.....	24	18 6	„ Conferences and other Meetings ..	10	14 11
			„ Hours and Wages Board.....	3	8 6
			„ General Printing	0	13 6
			„ Stationery	0	6 0
			„ Postages	0	17 6
			„ Telegrams ..	0	6 7
			„ Secretary's Honorarium	2	0 0
			„ Cash in hand, 31st Dec., 1918	6	0 0
	£30	18 6		£30	18 6

ALF. JOHNSON, Secretary.

No. 15.—ROSSENDALE.

Executive Committee.

Mr. H. Riley (chairman), Haslingden.	Mr. Fred Aspden, Rawtenstall.
„ J. W. Hargreaves (secretary), 41, Pine Street, Haslingden.	„ Cyrus Kay, Ramsbottom.
„ T. Haworth, Bacup.	„ Mr. S. S. Richardson, Waterfoot.

Representative on Sectional Board: Mr. J. R. Cunliffe, Ramsbottom.

Although societies in this district have laboured under many difficulties, we are glad to notice that in nearly every case the number of members has increased, share and loan capital has been larger than before, and, notwithstanding smaller supplies and lessened margins, along with disability of temporary staffs, the work of the societies has developed and grown. The

Hours and Wages Board have been very active, and many matters have been dealt with by them. It was considered advisable to have a special conference to deal with the constitution of the Wages Board, at which it was resolved that it should continue to be comprised of a delegate from each society.

At the General Election in December last the nine co-operative questions were sent to each of the three Parliamentary candidates for the division, and at a meeting of delegates from each society it was resolved to publish the replies and answers in ~~the~~ local Press, so that co-operators could be guided when giving their votes.

The first conference of the year was held at Haslingden on 26th January, when Mr. J. Moss, the secretary of the local Educational Committee, read a paper on "Education," with special reference to its relation to co-operation. The paper was most instructive, and an excellent discussion followed.

The second conference was held at Lumb on 13th April, when Mr. T. Armstrong (of Manchester) should have read a paper on "Our Present Difficulties," but he failed to appear. Mr. Thomas Killon (chairman of the Co-operative Wholesale Society), who was in the audience, therefore spoke for about thirty-five minutes on "Current Events," and in an admirable address referred to the many private interests that are at work opposed to the true interests of the workers. He pointed out in a most clear and incisive manner that there were two forces in English commercial life striving for the mastery, namely, private gain and public good. The address was listened to with the greatest attention, and an excellent discussion followed.

The third conference was held at Stacksteads on 13th July, when Mr. T. M. Young (general manager, Eccles Society) read a capital paper on "Reconstruction After the War from a Co-operative Point of View." Mr. Young dealt with the many problems that would face us when peace was declared, and said that in order to do justice to the growing power of co-operation we must recognise efficiency and all the other forces that made for true progress. The paper was a clarion call to co-operators to be up and doing, and the good discussion that followed showed that the paper had made a good impression upon the delegates.

The fourth conference was held at Bacup on 19th October, when Mr. James Sharples (of Blackburn) gave an address on "The Consumer and Labour, and the Relations of Co-operative Societies with Other Traders." Mr. Sharples dealt with the matter in a most lucid and exhaustive manner and kept the attention of the meeting whilst he dealt with the trading interests of co-operation.

A special conference has also been held during the year to deal with the question of Parliamentary representation. Councillor E. Whiteley (of Manchester) was the leading speaker, and dealt with the matter of organisation in a masterly manner. This district is small, so far as numbers and societies are concerned, but in loyalty to co-operative principles it is continually making headway, and if its leaders are wise the future of co-operation in the Valley is bright with promise.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1918 :—

Receipts.	£	s.	d.	Expenditure.	£	s.	d.
To Cash in hand, 1st January, 1918..	6	0	0	By Executive Meetings	4	9	11
„ Cash from North-Western Sectional Board.....	25	3	10	„ Conferences and other Meetings..	17	6	7
				„ Stationery	0	3	10
				„ Postages	1	3	6
				„ Secretary's Honorarium	2	0	0
				„ Cash in hand, 31st Dec., 1918....	6	0	0
	£31	3	10		£31	3	10

DISTRICT FUND.

Receipts	£	s.	d.	Expenditure.	£	s.	d.
By Balance in hand	9	18	2	To Deputations	1	2	3
„ Levy from Societies	15	4	5	„ Stamps.....	0	10	0
				„ Teas	11	16	8
Audited —				„ Hours and Wages Board Expenses	4	0	9
A. J. Joy.				„ Balance in hand, 31st Dec., 1918..	7	12	11
	£25	2	7		£25	2	7

J. W. HARGREAVES, Secretary.

No. 16.—SOUTH YORKSHIRE.

Executive Committee.

Mr. J. Gillies (chairman), Doncaster.	Mr. L. Holmes, Goole.
„ J. Dimberline (secretary), Sheffield.	„ E. Cusworth, Killamarsh.
„ J. Greaves, Chesterfield.	„ J. C. Kenworthy, Sheffield.
„ J. Cauldwell, Barnsley.	

Representative on Sectional Board : Mr. G. Major, Rotherham.

Five conferences have been held during the year, viz. :—

Date.	Place.	Subject.	Introduced by
12th Jan.	Attercliffe ...	Direct Representation	Mr. G. Major.
25th March ..	Barnsley	Report of Survey Committee	Mr. J. Dimberline.
22nd June . .	Sheffield.....	After-War Problems	Mr. J. Bradshaw.
14th Sept. ...	Sheffield.....	Report of Survey Committee	Mr. G. Major.
30th Nov.....	Attercliffe ...	Trade Section, Survey Report	Mr. N. H. Cooper.

We have pleasure in submitting our 40th report to Congress. Nine executive meetings and five conferences have been held.

All the above meetings were well attended and the interest taken in the subjects is a proof that the district is awakening to the possibilities of the movement.

The year that has just closed has perhaps been the most difficult from a management point of view. The scarcity of supplies and the constant increase of prices has made it difficult for those responsible for carrying on the work, but in spite of this considerable progress has been made, and we feel, as an executive, that the discussions on the various problems at the district meetings have helped and encouraged the societies.

We have had one Parliamentary contest in the district. Mr. A. Lockwood was nominated by the Brightside and Carbrook Society for the Division of Hillsbro', one of the seven seats in Sheffield, and the work done on his behalf served as an excellent advertisement for the movement.

Now that many of the men are returning to their previous co-operative situations the societies will no doubt be able to carry on under better circumstances than during the war.

Before closing the report we should like to pay a tribute to the women in our district who have come forward and entered into a work entirely new to most of them, and by their efforts have helped us to carry the movement through perhaps the most trying time we have ever experienced.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1918:—

Receipts.			Expenditure.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Cash in hand, 1st January, 1918..	6	0 0	By Executive Meetings	12	12 7
„ Grant from Union	38	15 7	„ Conference Meetings	18	10 8
			„ Hours and Wages Board	3	4 6
			„ Postages and Carriage	2	7 10
			„ Secretary's Honorarium	2	0 0
			„ Cash in hand, 31st Dec., 1918	6	0 0
	£44	15 7		£44	15 7

LOCAL FUND.

Receipts.			Expenditure.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Cash in hand, 1st January, 1918..	0	15 0	By Hours and Wages Board	110	0 0
„ Subscriptions by Women's Guild	0	10 0	„ Congress Expenses	3	8 6
„ Subscriptions, Educational Committees' Association	0	5 0	„ Executive Expenses	0	15 2
„ Subscriptions, from Societies	178	14 6	„ Delegations	3	0 1
„ Interest	0	11 2	„ Postage and Carriage	1	14 0
			„ Cash in hand, 31st Dec., 1918	61	17 11
Audited and Found Correct—					
JOHN E. FORSTER.					
March 8, 1919.	£180	15 8		£180	15 8

J. DIMBERLINE, Secretary.

EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEES' ASSOCIATION.

Officers and Committee.

Mr. Jas. S. Armitage, J.P. (president), Huddersfield.	Mrs. E. Tearnley, Bradford.
„ W. A. Lambert (hon. treasurer), Accrington.	Mr. J. W. Tiffany, Failsworth.
„ E. Couldwell (hon. secretary), Brightside and Carbrook.	„ J. F. Ashworth, Eccles.
„ T. Marsden, Leeds.	„ C. Anders, Liverpool.
	„ J. C. Hill, Bury.
	„ A. Pollitt, Bolton.
	„ G. Gale, Oldham Equitable.

Representative from Sectional Board : Mr. B. Woolfenden, Rochdale.

Hon. Auditor : Mr. S. Berry, Public Auditor, Oldham.

We have pleasure in presenting the annual report of the work of the association for the past year. It is pleasing to know that the executive, despite the difficulties of travelling and expense, have been enabled to continue the association's activities.

The thirty-first annual meeting was held at Failsworth on Saturday, 22nd March, 1918, under the auspices of the Failsworth Co-operative Society Ltd. Educational Committee, there being a good attendance of delegates. Mr. Jas. S. Armitage, J.P. (president of the association), presided, and gave an address, the subject being "Our Present Duty," in which he pointed out the need for a co-operative daily paper if the co-operative movement is to make progress in the national life of the people. Mr. Armitage paid a high tribute to the women's co-operative guild for the splendid work which had been done in assisting to place on the Statute Book the women's franchise. The discussion was opened by Mr. C. Anders (Liverpool) and Mr. MacGregor (Lancaster), and was of interest and instructive.

The annual report and balance sheet, along with the auditor's report, was passed unanimously. The retiring officials were heartily thanked for their services during the past year. The officers elected for the year were as follows:—President, Mr. Jas S. Armitage, J.P.; Treasurer, Mr. W. A. Lambert; Secretary, Mr. E. Couldwell. The following societies were elected to appoint a representative to the executive:—Failsworth, Oldham Equitable, Leeds, and City of Bradford. Mr. S. Berry (Public Auditor, Oldham) was appointed honorary auditor.

The 126th quarterly conference was held at Liverpool on Saturday, 22nd June, under the auspices of the Liverpool Co-operative Society Limited Educational Committee, there being a moderate attendance of delegates present. Mr. C. Anders (Liverpool) presided, owing to the unavoidable absence of the president. Mrs. Lightfoot (vice-president of the Liverpool Educational Committee) gave the delegates a cordial welcome to Liverpool. Mr. Edmund Rose (member of the Liverpool Educational Committee) read

his paper on "Co-operative Representation; What does the Movement want, and how can it be secured?" Mr. Rose asked whether or not we were agreed that the United Kingdom should become a co-operative state based wholly on co-operative, and not upon competitive, principles. Mr. C. Slater (Accrington) and Mr. H. Hartland (Worksop) opened the discussion, which was of an animated character. Mr. Rose briefly replied.

Children's Competition for Medals and Brooches (Subject: "Co-operation.")—This association again offered prizes for the successful students (whose society are members of the association) in the re-examination. Twelve societies sent in papers to the Co-operative Union for re-examination. The successful students were as follows:—Dorothea M. Higgins (Bolton), first gold pendant; Frederick H. Ashworth (Eccles, Urmston), first gold medal; Nellie Byrne (Bolton), second gold pendant; Harry Miller (Huddersfield), second gold medal. We congratulate the students upon their success, which must be very gratifying to the respective educational committees.

The annual special conference of co-operative class teachers was held on Saturday, 7th September, in the Lecture Hall, Holyoake House, there being a moderate attendance of representatives present. Mr. Jas. S. Armitage presided. Mr. J. Widdup (Nelson) gave an address on "Co-operative Class Work," in which he advocated the need of properly equipped schools in connection with every co-operative society, pictures with lantern to illustrate the subject taught, and the need for training teachers to secure the best results. An interesting discussion followed, opened by Mr. Wroe (Barnsley) and Mr. Hampson (Radcliffe), which centred round the qualification of the teacher. Mr. Widdup replied to the discussion, and expressed the pleasure it had been to him to come and speak, and hoped that what had been said would be helpful to teachers and committees in their work.

The 127th quarterly conference was held at Beswick on Saturday, 28th September, under the auspices of the Beswick Co-operative Society Ltd., there being a good attendance of delegates present. Mr. Jas. S. Armitage presided. Mr. Armitage introduced, in a few words of appreciation, Mr. J. W. Sutton (member of the Beswick Society's Board), who gave an address on "Co-operative Politics: Method or Muddle." The speaker pointed out that there were three ways the co-operative movement could take in entering the political arena—permeation, independence, or fusion of forces. Mr. Sutton thought that joining forces with the Labour Party would be the best way for the movement to achieve that success it desired. Mr. Marshall (Todmorden) and Mr. Law (Stockport) opened the discussion, which showed that opinions were divided. Mr. Sutton, in replying, admitted that he thought the delegates were not with him.

The 128th quarterly conference was held at the Co-operative Wholesale Society, 1, Balloon Street, Manchester, on Saturday, 30th November. There was a good attendance of delegates present. Mr. Jas. S. Armitage presided, and expressed the pleasure of meeting the delegates from the various societies again in a time of peace. Professor F. Hall, M.A., B.Com. (Adviser of

Studies to the Co-operative Union), gave an address on "The Survey Committee's Report in Relation to Educational Committees' Associations." Professor Hall dealt very exhaustively with the report, pointing out that the Survey Committee desired to bring into the association more societies and guild branches; also the individual co-operators who at the present time were being drawn away into other channels, also associations of co-operative employees. The speaker urged that a closer connection should be formed between educational associations, sectional board of the areas, and local educational committees. An interesting discussion followed, opened by Mr. Keighley (York) and Mrs. Craven (Clayton-le-Moors), and continued in a vigorous manner. Professor Hall replied to the points raised.

The following societies and guilds have been admitted to membership and affiliation of the association:—Stalybridge Educational Committee; Eckington Educational Committee (near Sheffield), with Beswick and Heywood Women's Co-operative Guilds.

Special propaganda meetings have been held in nine districts for the purpose of stimulating co-operative class work, co-operative week-ends, and week-end schools. We are pleased to learn, from reports to hand, that several societies have taken up this educational work.

In conclusion, the executive urge committees to give this work their careful consideration as a further means of extending the usefulness and influence of the movement. The executive also urges committees to bring together trade union members and other progressive forces for the purpose of discussing questions affecting the welfare of the workers and the highest interests of the masses.

E. COULDWELL, Hon. Secretary.

(5) SCOTTISH SECTION.

At the first meeting of the Sectional Board, held in Glasgow on 1st June, 1918, the following, among other appointments, were made for the Congress year :—

Chairman : Mr. James Allan.

Treasurer : Mr. John Patterson.

Executive Committee Messrs. J. Allan, J. Deans (secretary),
A. Purdie, P. Loney, and J. Lucas,

Representatives to the United Board . . . Messrs. A. Purdie and G. Wilson.

Representative to the Office Committee Mr. A. Purdie.

Representative to Central Education Committee Mr. J. Lucas.

Representative to quarterly meetings of the Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society Limited Mr. J. Deans.

Representatives to the Joint Arbitration Board, consisting of Representatives from the Scottish Section and the Parliamentary Committee of the Scottish Trades Union Congress :

Messrs. J. Allan, J. Deans, P. Loney, and N. Maclean.

Representatives to the Scottish National Propaganda Committee :

Messrs. J. Allan, J. Deans, N. Maclean, and A. Purdie.

Representative to the Central Parliamentary Representation Committee :

Mr. G. Wilson.

Representative to the Joint Co-operative and Labour Council :

Messrs. J. Deans, P. Loney, and A. Purdie.

Representative to the Scottish Conciliation Board Mr. N. Maclean.

During the Congress year the Sectional Board has held 10 meetings, the attendance of members being as follows :—

	Present.	Absent.
James Allan	9	1
P. Agnew	9	0
George Bisset	—	—
James Deans	9	1
Patrick Loney	10	0
James Lucas	8	2
Neil Maclean	8	2
John Patterson	10	0
Andrew Purdie	9	1
George Wilson	9	1

The members of the section regret exceedingly that Mr. Bisset has been prevented from attending any of the section meetings during the year through illness.

Mr. Agnew was elected after the first Board Meeting had been held, but has been present at all the meetings since he was elected.

In addition to the meetings of the Sectional Board the Executive Committee has held 21 meetings, a which a summary of the correspondence received between meetings has been submitted and dealt with.

NINETEENTH ANNUAL SCOTTISH NATIONAL CONFERENCE.

This conference was held in Glasgow on Saturday, 27th April, 1918. Mr. James Allan (chairman of the Sectional Board) presided, and there was a good attendance in spite of the restricted facilities for railway travelling. The annual reports and balance sheets of the Scottish Section, District Conference Associations, and Scottish Co-operative Women's Guild were submitted and passed, and resolutions were submitted and passed on the following matters :—

- (1) Calling up of co-operative employees.
- (2) Local autonomy for Scotland in connection with the Direct Representation of Co-operation in Parliament.
- (3) Co-operative Union, &c., Central Premises for Scotland.

Several other questions of practical importance to the movement in Scotland were discussed.

ANNUAL JOINT MEETING.

The annual joint meeting of the members of the Sectional Board, members of the Propaganda Committee, representatives from the District Conference Associations, and the Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society, was held in the Section Offices in June, 1918. Mr. James Allan presided, and there was a good attendance. The annual report and balance sheet of the Scottish National Propaganda Committee were submitted and passed, and it was agreed that the committee be continued for another year, and authorised to issue an appeal for funds.

Mr. James Deans introduced the question of the "Direct Representation of Co-operation in Parliament and how to attain it." The paper gave rise to an interesting discussion and many hints of practical importance in connection with the question.

SPECIAL SECTIONAL CONFERENCES.

Up to the date of this report four special sectional conferences have been held.

The first was held in Glasgow on 28th September, 1918, and was well attended. Mr. James Allan (chairman of the section) presided. The subject for discussion was "International Trading after the War," and was introduced in a very able paper by Mr. J. H. Jones, Assistant Lecturer on Economics, Glasgow University, which caused several interesting and important questions to be raised. The Publications Committee of the Co-operative Union have printed this paper as a Co-operative Union pamphlet.

The second conference was held in Glasgow on 20th November, Mr. James Allan (chairman of the section) presiding. This conference was

convened to discuss the "Co-ordination and Unifying of the work of the various Educational and Propaganda Organisations in Scotland," the subject was introduced by Mr. J. Lucas. The question gave rise to a considerable amount of discussion, from which it was evident that the delegates were largely in favour of a better system of co-ordination, and it was remitted to the section to prepare a scheme and submit it to another conference.

The third special conference was held in Glasgow on 30th November. In the unavoidable absence of Mr. James Allan (chairman of the section), Mr. A. Purdie presided. The conference consisted of representatives from societies in Scotland having bakeries in connection with their business. The subject of discussion was "The Work of the Industrial Council for the Baking Trade of Scotland," and there was a large attendance of representatives. Mr. J. F. Rees, M.A., representing the Ministry of Labour, introduced the subject in a very able and lucid address bearing upon the Industrial Councils proposed to be set up in the various trades under the Whitley Report, but with special reference to the Industrial Council for the baking trade. An interesting discussion followed, and resolutions were passed—(1) approving of the formation of the Industrial Council for the baking trade of Scotland, (2) approving of the appointment of the present co-operative representatives for the first year, and demanding increased representation in the future, (3) remitting it to the Sectional Board to advise societies in July of the termination of the agreement, and to convene a conference to be held annually to consider any amendments sent in by societies to the previous year's agreement and instruct the delegates.

The fourth special conference was held in Edinburgh on Saturday, 25th January, 1919. Mr. James Allan presided, and there was a good attendance. At this conference it was proposed to discuss two subjects—(1) "The Organisation, Co-operatively, of the Small Landholders of Scotland," to be introduced by Mr. W. E. Snell, of Edinburgh, and (2) a resolution prepared by the Scottish Section on the question of "Reconstruction after the War," to be introduced by Mr. Neil Maclean. Mr. Snell introduced the first subject in a very able paper, which gave rise to a prolonged and interesting discussion in which various views were expressed, at the close of which a resolution was passed in favour of the organisation co-operatively of the smallholders. It was found that the time remaining would not permit of discussing the resolution on "Reconstruction," and this was considered of sufficient importance for a conference to be convened to consider this matter alone, and the matter was left in the hands of the section.

SCOTTISH NATIONAL PROPAGANDA COMMITTEE.

This committee has been very active during the autumn and winter months. It was decided that the speakers addressing the public meetings held under its auspices should, as far as practicable, confine their addresses to the Principles and Ideals of Co-operation, and the Industrial and Social Reconstruction of the Co-operative Movement, Productive and Distributive, after the War. A large number of public meetings have been held, covering

the greater part of Scotland, at which the attendances have been good, and at which many thousands of leaflets have been distributed. There can be no doubt that these meetings have rendered very important service in keeping the co-operative movement and its possibilities before the public mind, and educating not only the members of co-operative societies but of the general public upon its present attainments and future possibilities. The committee propose to arrange for an active campaign during the spring and summer months.

SUMMER SCHOOL FOR 1918.

The Summer School was held during the first two weeks of July in the Greenlodge Boarding House, Ayr. There was an average attendance of 30 students per week, and the lecturers were—Miss E. M. Bradley, M.A., Professor Hall, M.A., and Mr. James Lucas, M.A. The subjects dealt with covered a wide field, and the discussions were of an interesting nature. Altogether the school was very successful.

Arrangements are in process for the 1919 Summer School, but at present the place has not been definitely fixed.

PROPOSED CENTRAL PREMISES FOR SCOTLAND.

In accordance with the resolution passed at the National Conference held in Glasgow in April of last year, the Sectional Board convened a meeting of representatives from the various organisations for which it is proposed to provide accommodation in the new Central premises. A committee was then appointed to deal with the matter and report, and at present plans are being prepared and a site inquired about, and as soon as these and other essential particulars are arranged, a report will be submitted to the parent bodies.

LEGAL MATTERS.

The services of Mr. E. J. Gunn, solicitor to the Sectional Board, have, during the past year, been drawn upon by societies to an even greater extent than at any previous period, due, no doubt, to the many difficult questions which have arisen in the administration of the business affairs of the societies as a result of the war, and have proved of much practical value to societies. As a result of recent legislation, matters of a legal nature affecting societies have been much increased and made more complex, often requiring the employment of legal services, and the members of the section were of opinion that the societies would benefit considerably if they availed themselves of the special experience which the Legal Adviser to the Scottish Section has on this matter, and the result has been very satisfactory.

ACTION AGAINST BARRHEAD SOCIETY.

An action has been raised against the above society by five of its members, the object of which is to interdict the society from applying any of its funds to political purposes. The case is now proceeding in court, and no doubt the proceedings will be followed with much interest by co-operators in every part of the country.

In the report of the Sectional Board to the National Conference held in Glasgow in April last, it was reported that the Political Committees agreed upon at the National Conference held in Falkirk in April, 1917, had been successfully set up and were in full operation. The work accomplished by these committees during the year 1917 and the early part of 1918 was of a very practical and valuable description, including propaganda in preparation of the Direct Representation of Co-operation in Parliament, suitable literature, list of speakers for addressing meetings, and the organisation of the vote in Scotland. As the scheme for promoting the Direct Representation of Co-operation in Parliament, prepared by the Central Parliamentary Representation Committee (instituted by resolution at the Emergency Conference held in London in October, 1917) did not include the Scottish committees, the Scottish Parliamentary Representation Committee communicated with the Central Committee, and were informed that the Scottish committees, not being included in the National Scheme, could not be recognised. At the National Congress held in May, 1918, the Sectional Board submitted a new scheme for Parliamentary Representation, including the appointment of a new Parliamentary Representation Committee. The scheme as submitted included the Sectional Boards, and if this provision had been permitted to remain, it would probably have satisfied the claims of the majority of the Scottish co-operators; but that part of the scheme was disapproved by Congress, and the position with regard to Scotland left exactly as it was. Since the Liverpool Congress, the Scottish Parliamentary Representation Committee have submitted a scheme to the Central Committee, providing for the inclusion of the Scottish committees in the machinery of the Central Representation Committee, and the granting of a measure of local autonomy for Scotland in political matters, but the Central Committee has decided against the scheme, and arrangements are being made for the matter coming before the National Conference to take place in Glasgow on 26th April.

JOINT ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

This committee has met frequently during the year, and has brought its influence, and the influence of the organisations it represents, to bear upon such important questions as Food Control, the Scottish Education Bill, and the necessity for proper provision being made for soldiers and their dependants. In connection with the Education Bill, a conference, consisting of the various organisations represented on the committee, was held in Glasgow, and several important resolutions passed bearing thereon, and the Minister of Education was also interviewed. A similar conference was also held in Glasgow on the question of making adequate provision for soldiers and their dependants, at which resolutions were passed embodying the views of the organisations represented, and forwarded to the proper quarter. The committee has also dealt with other matters of importance to the working class generally.

THE GENERAL ELECTION.

At the General Election in December last three co-operative candidates were put forward in Scotland—Mr. H. J. May, in Clackmannan and East Stirlingshire, Mr. P. Malcolm, in the Kilmarnock Division of Ayrshire, and Mr. J. M. Biggar, in the Paisley Constituency. Immediately the date of the election was known the Election Committees in the three constituencies named made every effort to organise as effectively as possible on behalf of the candidates. Numerous meetings were held, in which the members of the section took part, and the enthusiasm of the audiences gave reason to hope that at least one if not more of the candidates would be successful. But the declaration of the poll did not realise this expectation, although the position of each of the candidates was creditable and encouraging. It is to be hoped that the experience gained may be the means of attaining successful issues at future elections.

SCOTTISH CO-OPERATIVE CONVALESCENT HOMES.

The war is now over, and although we have again to report a heavy deficit on the Maintenance Account, we are looking forward to a more prosperous time for the homes. The high cost of provisions, restricted railway facilities, and the expense of travelling have all been operative factors in contributing to the deficiency of the Maintenance Fund. We earnestly appeal to societies to make their contributions as liberal as possible, considering the abnormal times through which we have passed. We thought we had more than the necessary figure for the extension of the Mothers' and Children's House at Airdmhor, Dunoon, but we now find that the cost will be more than doubled, so we trust societies will give this matter their serious consideration. The directors feel very much that the present is a very opportune time for the formation of an endowment fund, and now that the year of Jubilee has come in the case of some important societies they consider this a fitting time to provide liberally for the emancipation of our weak and worn out brothers and sisters of the movement.

JAMES ALLAN, Chairman.

JAMES DEANS, Secretary.

SCOTTISH CO-OPERATIVE VETERANS' ASSOCIATION LIMITED.

It will be seen from the balance sheet that the work of the Veterans' Association is progressing. Ninety-four per cent of the net income (£546. 11s. 1d.) has been distributed amongst the veterans for whom it was subscribed, whilst the remaining 6 per cent for cost of distribution will compare favourably with any other fund of a benevolent character.

During the year £155 more was distributed than in 1917 by an increased grant of 25 per cent to all veterans on our list, while there are now 40 as compared with 35 in the previous year. The balance (£327. 9s.) for distribution is only a few shillings less than at the beginning of the year, which is the result of many societies having increasing their annual donation, whilst other contributors have also helped.

During the year five veterans have died, amongst them three who have been on our list for over eight years. The letters received testify that both their friends and the old veterans themselves appreciated what had been done for them by the association. All three were well known in their own society thirty or thirty-five years ago. One had been ten years on our list, and was close on 90 years of age. In the old Scottish way he had set aside a small sum against his funeral expenses, leaving any balance to the Veterans' Association; this balance was under £20. He had had to be nursed night and day for over four years, and as the daughter who, we have reason to know, nursed him diligently during these years did not benefit by his will, your committee waived their claim in her favour.

We have to thank Paisley Equitable for their jubilee donation; and as the Wholesale and the United Baking societies will, now that the war is closed, be free to jubilate, we are hopeful of being remembered by both, and bespeak the same kindly consideration from other societies who will be in a similar position in the near future.

In conclusion, let us thank all who have helped and are helping us to carry forward the good work of brightening the latter end of so many old co-operators.

SUMMARY OF BALANCE SHEET.

Income.		£	s.	d.	Expenditure.		£	s.	d.
To Collected by Individuals	.....	47	5	0	By Veterans	.....	515	5	9
" " Women's Guilds	.....	51	14	0	" Printing	.....	16	5	9
" Societies' Donations	.....	373	18	6	" Expenses	.....	16	10	6
" Collections at Conferences, &c.	.....	62	14	4	" Banked	.....	263	1	10
" Share Capital	.....	2	0	0	" Investments	.....	182	8	8
" Investments withdrawn	.....	163	0	0	" Cash in hand, 1918	.....	6	5	5
" Bank Withdrawals	.....	285	0	0					
" " interest	.....	10	19	3					
" Cash in hand, 1917	.....	3	6	5					
		£999	17	6			£999	17	6

WM. PETTIGREW, Secretary.

REPORTS OF THE DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS.

No. 1.—AYRSHIRE.

Executive Committee.

Mr. Thomas Clark (president), Kil-	Mr. James Hopes (auditor), Dalmelling-
marnock.	ton.
Bailie Dunlop (treasurer), Galston.	„ Thomas Smith (auditor), Kilmar-
Mr. Wm. Anderson (secretary), Kil-	nock.
birnie.	„ Thomas Imrie, Stevenston.
„ John Scott (statistical secretary),	„ John Milroy, Maybole.
New Cumnock.	„ Samuel Clark, Kilmarnock.

We have pleasure in submitting to you our annual report, and do so with more hopeful feelings and a great deal less anxiety than what we have been able to do during the past four years.

Under Government control the worries and annoyances experienced by boards of management have in no way lessened. The food problem has been a serious one. Shortage of supplies has been very prevalent, and many proofs are before us where the movement was not dealt with in a fair or equitable manner, the “datum period” being far from fair to societies whose membership had increased in the interval. But, in spite of all these adverse circumstances, the movement has gone forward and made great progress. This can be seen in our own district, when we look at the comparative statement, which shows increases all over:—

	Members.		Sales.		Profits.		Capital.
1918	42,523	..	£2,333,086	..	£276,551	..	£983,877
1917	41,475	..	2,142,179	..	267,387	..	847,322
Increase for Year ..	1,048		£190,907		£9,164		£136,555

During the year our various activities have been carried through with as great an amount of success as usual. We have been forced to hold all our meetings in Kilmarnock owing to the severe curtailment of trains. The attendance has been well maintained, and the interest has in no way abated.

Our annual meeting was held in March, and was under the auspices of Dalry Society, 117 delegates being present. Mr. Neil Maclean gave an address on “Co-operators and Political Action.” Mr. Thomas Clark, Kilmarnock, was elected president of the Association.

The second meeting was held in June, under the Crosshouse Society's auspices, and 112 delegates attended. A splendid address was delivered by Rev. Campbell Stephen, M.A., B.Sc., B.D., on “Co-operation and Political Action.” The third meeting was held in September under the auspices of the S.C.W.S. insurance department, and was attended by 118 delegates. Mr. J. Darroch, manager, insurance department, read a paper on “Co-operative Insurance,” which was well received. The report of the Defence Committee was submitted by Mr. Anderson. Mr. John Scott, New Cumnock, was elected statistical secretary.

The fourth meeting was held in December, under the auspices of Beith Society, and was attended by 114 delegates. Mr. James Lucas, M.A., gave a *résumé* of the paper on "Recommendations regarding the Constitution of the Co-operative Union." Mr. T. Smith, Kilmarnock, was elected auditor. The Stevenston branch of the Women's Guild was admitted to membership. Presentations were also made to Mr. Cosgrove, late president, and Mr. Scott, late statistical secretary.

EDUCATIONAL AND PROPAGANDA MEETINGS.

We have again been able, along with the Scottish National Propaganda Committee, to provide for a large number of meetings. These, in most cases, have been very successful, and we believe had good results.

We are also very pleased to record the fact that the various guilds are going forward and still developing by the opening of new branches. There are still a few societies who are without the help of this branch of the movement, but we trust that it will not be for long, and that soon guild branches will be active in every society.

DEFENCE COMMITTEE.

This committee has done a great deal of work during the year, and was able to put forward a candidate to represent the co-operators in the Kilmarnock Division, but we regret that Bailie Malcolm was defeated in his noble fight for the cause of democracy by the lack of support from the members of the various societies in the district. Defeated, but not disgraced. We were unanimous in the demand for direct representation. Are we satisfied with the result? The want of organisation has been blamed, but it was rather a want of being consistent. The district can yet be won by co-operators.

WAGES BOARD.

This body has been reorganised during the year, and, although some societies have withdrawn from us and weakened our position, still good work has been accomplished, and, by tact and wisdom, harmony has prevailed amongst the employees and employers. We would appeal to those societies who are still outwith the membership of the Board to consider their position and to unite with us, as it, undoubtedly, is true here that "unity is strength."

OBITUARY.

During the year we have lost many of our valued helpers, who have been called to their rest. The movement is the poorer by their loss, but the call is for others to step into the gaps that have been made. Mr. R. Howat, New Cumnock, was an active and eager member of executive. Mr. R. Duncanson, Kilmarnock, was one who had for a very long period been President of the Association. Bailie Rennie, Kilmarnock, for years acted as auditor of the books and accounts of the Association.

We have lost by removals some of those who were very active in the Shire. Mr. W. M. Scott removed to Alloa, and thus severed his long con-

nection. Mr. Stewart, auditor, also removed, and withdrew from the movement.

To the societies who have provided hospitality we return our warmest thanks, same being very much appreciated by the delegates, many of whom had to travel long distances. Our best thanks are also tendered to Kilmarnock Educational Committee for the privilege we have of using their room for our Executive meetings.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1918:—

Receipts.			Expenditure.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Balance, 31st December, 1917....	43	12 2	By Quarterly Meetings, Kilmarnock.	43	10 1½
„ Co-operative Union.....	3	0 0	„ Committee Meetings.....	15	16 7
„ Subscriptions from Societies	185	8 4	„ Special Meetings.....	2	0 6
„ Advertising.....	2	10 0	„ Attending other Conferences....	16	1 9
„ Interest	2	16 4	„ Convalescent Homes Association ..	2	0 0
			„ Co-operative Alliance.....	0	12 0
			„ Musical Association, 1917-1918 ..	2	0 0
			„ Scottish Council for Women's		
			„ Trades	1	1 0
			„ Delegate to Congress.....	10	5 0
			„ J. M. Wilkie Fund	2	0 0
			„ J. A. Flanagan's Testimonial....	0	10 6
			„ Mrs. Lamont's Testimonial	1	1 0
			„ Scottish Propaganda Committee.	1	1 0
			„ Printing Account.....	3	12 3
			„ President's Salary	1	10 0
			„ Secretary's	6	0 0
			„ Statistical Secretary's Salary....	1	10 0
			„ Treasurer's Salary	3	0 0
			„ Auditing Books	0	18 1½
			„ Janitor.....	0	10 0
			„ Secretary's Postage	6	18 0
			„ Statistical Secretary's Postage ..	0	2 11
			„ Treasurer's Postage	0	9 6
			„ Bank Charges	0	18 10
				128	9 1
			„ Balance at 31st December, 1918—		
			„ In Bank	97	11 11
			„ On hand	11	5 10
				£237	6 10
				£237	6 10

Audited—
JAMES HOPES.
THOMAS SMITH.

Collected for Messrs. Cosgrove's and Scott's Testimonial£31 11 6

WILLIAM ANDERSON, Secretary.

NO. 2.—BORDER COUNTIES.

Executive Committee.

Mr. George Fisher (president), Innerleithen.	Mr. G. A. Kyle (auditor), Selkirk.
„ T. J. Bolster (treasurer), Selkirk.	„ William Christison, Walkerburn.
„ Thos. N. Ralston, (secretary), Galashiels.	„ Peter Shortreed, Peebles.
	„ William Aitchison, Jedburgh.

During the past year the co-operative movement in the area covered by this association has been strained to almost its uttermost strength, with

regard to obtaining the necessary supplies. Managers of societies have put in a very anxious and trying time, and complaints have been numerous of the unfair treatment of co-operative societies. The apathy of the average member has to be deplored in this connection, as the burdens of managers and committees would be greatly relieved by a more active and intelligent interest from the majority of our members. A general Parliamentary election has taken place since our last report was issued. Considering the times and circumstances we might have expected better results. We can only hope that the beginning, which has been disappointing, will be more than balanced at the first opportunity.

Owing to restricted train service, we again considered it best not to have our December meeting. With altered conditions, we now hope to be able to visit the several districts as occasion arises.

The many branches of the movement continue to carry on their good work. Propaganda meetings have been held in some of our districts, and good results are hoped for.

Earlston Society ceases to exist as a separate society, Galashiels United Society having taken it over, and are carrying it on as a branch of their society. After the many times of stress and trial of the Earlston Society, we can only hope for a successful time, now that it has become a branch of a flourishing society.

The annual meeting was held on 16th March, 1918, at Galashiels. Mr. George Fisher presided. Messrs. Wm. Christison and Peter Shortreed were elected to the Executive. Mr. T. N. Ralston was elected secretary. Mr. George Fisher was nominated as president. Mr. Peter Shortreed was elected to represent the conference at Congress. The annual report and statistical returns were submitted and accepted. The annual report of the Wages Board was submitted, also the financial statement, after which it was agreed that same be wound up, the balance on hand to be given as a donation to the Homes Association. Financing Direct Representation Committee was considered, and the same was agreed to, at the rate of 1d. per member per annum.

The second meeting was held on 15th June, at Galashiels, the president (Mr. Fisher) presiding. Mr. George Fisher was re-elected president. Mr. Wm. Aitchison, Jedburgh, was nominated for the Executive. Mr. P. Shortreed gave a very interesting report of Congress meetings.

The third meeting was held in Galashiels on 28th September, when Mr. George Fisher (president) presided. Mr. Aitchison was elected to the Executive, while Mr. D. Cairns (Kelso) was nominated for a seat on the Board, also Mr. P. Shortreed. Mr. Thomas J. Bolster was nominated as treasurer. The chairman introduced Professor Hall, M.A., B.Com., Adviser of Studies to the Co-operative Union, who went over in detail the Survey Committee's report. He showed the necessity for a fuller and wider knowledge of our movement in the commercial field, not forgetting our first principle of collective effort. A fine discussion took place thereafter. Hospitality was provided at each meeting by the Conference Executive.

ROBERT M. PRENTICE, Secretary.

No. 4.—EAST OF SCOTLAND.

Executive Committee.

Mr. Edward Young (president), Leith.	Mrs. Gould, St. Cuthbert's Women's Guild.
„ George Peddie (secretary), Leith.	
„ George Gray (treasurer), St. Cuthbert's, Edinburgh.	Mr. James Taylor, Musselburgh and Fisherrow.
„ William D. Gready, St. Cuthbert's.	„ William Colville (auditor).
„ Hugh D. Munro, St. Cuthbert's.	„ James C. Cessford (auditor).

Under happier circumstances, although in a briefer form, we have pleasure in submitting the annual report.

During such a prolonged crisis the interests of the community could not emerge scatheless. The food problem has been a serious one, and co-operators are convinced that they have not received fair treatment. Under Government control hopes of amendment were entertained, but in some commodities the supplies were not sufficient to ration our members. This created great uneasiness, and resolutions and suggestions have been forwarded to those in authority, without bringing about a fair adjustment; and now there is a growing desire for a cancellation of all controls and a return to that freedom which will enable the movement to evolve its own system of economic trading.

It is satisfactory to record that though circumstances have been so unpropitious to trade development, continuous prosperity is in evidence. These are graphically seen in the expansions returned from the combined societies, as the following tables testify:—

	Members.	Sales. £	Profits. £	Share Capital. £
1918	103,280	5,673,673	933,309	1,522,984
1917	104,137	5,098,356	925,129	1,495,458
Increase for year....	d 857	£575,317	£8,180	£27,526

d Decrease.

CONFERENCE MEETINGS.

All these meetings have been well attended by delegates, and visitors are always anxious to secure places. Mr. William Nimmo, J.P., presided at the first meeting, and Mr. Edward Young at the remainder. Their opening addresses were carefully thought out, and current events were co-related to bear upon the development of the movement. The papers have been well received, and there has always been an abundance of speakers to carry on a good discussion.

First meeting, Mr. W. Nimmo (president of the conference) delivered an address on "The Way Forward." Second meeting, Mr. James Deans (secretary, Scottish Section) delivered an address, "The Best Method of Organisation to Secure Direct Parliamentary Representation." Third meeting, Mr. Andrew Eunson (president of the Edinburgh Trades Council) read a paper,

"Economic Solution of the Housing Problem." Fourth meeting, Mr. Lucas introduced the Survey Committee's recommendations.

EDUCATIONAL AND PROPAGANDA WORK.

Annual Conference.—The Executive, being always anxious to encourage fresh efforts, held this meeting at Gorebridge. All the functions were represented. Mr. Watters (chairman of the society) welcomed the delegates. He said his society had just created an Educational Committee, and they were willing to learn as much as they could from those ripe in experience.

The president said they would gather from the meeting that the Executive recognised that for real educational work they required to pool their experiences and give expression to their best thought, so that something practical and enduring would be the outcome of their endeavours.

A programme was submitted and discussed at considerable length, this being somewhat restricted owing to the war still obsessing our energies and taking away so many of our men. But this supplied a special opportunity for laying emphasis on the need for impressing upon the young minds the ideals of the movement. This could best be done, it was agreed, by instituting junior guilds, along with essay competitions.

Propaganda Meetings.—As in former years, these have been vigorously prosecuted, and, we believe, with good results. The subjects treated, in addition to practical and ideal co-operation, have been Housing, Land Nationalisation, Child Welfare, Education, and Co-operative Representation. During the year meetings have been held at Bathgate, Armadale, Roslin, Leith, Gorebridge (two), Prestonpans, Penicuik, and Musselburgh. According to precedent, addresses have been delivered by the president and all the members of the Executive in rotation.

National Propaganda Meetings.—With gratitude we record our appreciation of the confidence displayed by this committee in entrusting us with the carrying through of their meetings in our area. These were held at Tranent, West Calder, and Broxburn, and were addressed by Mrs. M'Donald, Mr. R. Donaldson, and Mr. A. Young, with gratifying success. Through the agency of Section IV. Women's Guild a mass meeting was held in the Synod Hall, Edinburgh, to interest the women in their new duties as citizens, the principal speaker being Mr. J. M. Wilkie (of the Scottish Section), who met his tragic end on his way home. All the arrangements did great credit to the organisers.

Juvenile Essay Competition—This was open to all the societies, and consequently there was a larger number of competitors. The essays were written under the supervision of members of the Executive, and the board schools in many districts were granted for the purpose. Mr. A. Young, J.P., adjudicated the awards, and the president presented the prizes at Leith.

Men's Guilds.—These guilds have placed before their members syllabuses of a high order, and their educational value cannot be over-estimated. Another guild has been operating this year at Gorebridge. We hope to see in peace times many more of these functions throughout the area doing beneficent work.

Women's Guilds.—From observation and information received, these bodies are most active. It has been the privilege of members of the Executive to address about twenty of these, and in all cases reports have been tendered of increasing interest being taken in all that pertains to the well-being of the community. Gorebridge Women's Guild became affiliated. It is noteworthy that all the women's guilds are affiliated in this bond of union.

THANKS.

Again we have to acknowledge the kindness rendered to us by the societies who entertained the conference, and to thank the educational committees and boards of management for so spontaneously assisting us in our work.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1918:—

Receipts.			Expenditure.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Balance at 1st January, 1918	12	14 4½	By Committee's Expenses	16	0 5
„ Bank Interest	0	14 1	„ Quarterly Conference Meetings ..	8	10 4
„ Advertisements	6	0 0	„ Delegations	26	17 5
„ Contributions from Societies, &c. 225	12	0 0	„ Delegate to Liverpool Congress	10	1 6
			„ Conference Propaganda Meetings	49	2 4½
			„ National	22	11 10
			„ Edinburgh Printing Co.	36	11 6
			„ Hall Rent	9	6 0
			„ Children's Essay Competition ..	5	18 9
			„ Co-operative Union, for Papers..	1	19 5
			„ Co-operative Veterans' Assoc. ..	9	3 2
			„ Women's Trades	2	0 0
			„ Convalescent Home	2	0 0
			„ National Propaganda Committee	2	0 0
			„ Mrs. Lamont (Festimonial)	2	0 0
			„ Mrs J. Wilkie (Fund)	3	0 0
			„ Co-operative Alliance	0	12 0
			„ Teas at Conferences	7	12 5
			„ Salaries—		
			Chairman	3	0 0
			Committee	4	0 0
			Secretary	10	0 0
			„ Postages	2	10 0
			Treasurer	4	0 0
			„ Postages	0	18 4
			Auditors	1	0 0
			„ Minute Book	0	3 0
			Balance at 31st December, 1918	10	4 0
	£245	2 5½		£245	2 5½

Audited—

WM. COLVILLE.

JAMES C. CRESSFORD, F.S.A.A.

GEORGE PEDDIE, Secretary.

No. 5.—FALKIRK.

Executive Committee.

Ex-Bailie Loney, J.P. (president), Denny.	Mr. H. Rule, B. and G. Baking.
Mr. Robert Newlands (treasurer), Camelon.	„ H. Brock, Grangemouth.
„ Thomas Johnston (secretary), Falkirk.	„ G. M'Nair, Stenhousemuir.
	„ P. Johnston, Redding.
	„ Robert Burt, Camelon; Mr. G. Walker, Grahamston (auditors).

Life Members of the Association :

John Liddell (late treasurer).

Robert Marshall (late secretary).

As far as the work of the association is concerned, we have been hampered through the D.O.R.A. restrictions. The council had to drop much of the work they had planned out, but they fully expect to enter into a more vigorous policy as soon as circumstances permit. Several propaganda meetings were held throughout the conference area during the year, and on every occasion special stress was laid by the speaker on the advantages of direct co-operative representation, otherwise the work of the council was of the usual routine nature.

The statistical statement, which we have the pleasure of submitting, shows a marked increase in the value of our sales. This is no doubt almost entirely due to the high cost of commodities; but it also shows that the members, as a whole, have been steadfast and loyal to the society. For comparison, we submit the principal figures for 1918, compared with 1917:—

	Members.	Capital.	Shares.	Profits.	Reserve Funds.
1918 ..	28,524	£549,156	£1,812,467	£232,917	£35,712
1917 ..	27,655	495,860	1,544,020	207,485	30,339
Increase	869	£53,296	£268,447	£28,432	£5,373

We also submit our balance sheet, from which you will observe a larger balance than usual is shown. We have been husbanding our resources to be in readiness for the work that lies before us.

We are glad to report that two additional educational associations have been formed in the conference district—viz., Kilsyth and Stenhousemuir. We wish them much success, and we trust that their action will be an incentive for other societies to follow. We learn that the other educational associations and women's guilds have been vigorously engaged during the session. It would, perhaps, be as well if the council and these associations would get into closer touch with each other; opinions could be exchanged which no doubt would be beneficial to all. A local Parliamentary Committee has also been appointed. It is independent of the council, and is financed by special contributions from the societies. They laboured hard during the recent elections.

It is a matter of supreme importance to chronicle the fact that after persistent pressure we at last obtained direct co-operative representation on the Food Control Committee for the county of Stirling. Mr. Grant, manager of the Larbert Co-operative Society, is our representative on this committee, and he gives every attention to the interests of co-operation.

In arranging for the quarterly conferences, the council took into consideration the travelling facilities, with the result that more than the usual were held in the Falkirk district. It is hoped, with improved transit, we will be able to revert to the old order of things, as we believe the holding of the quarterly conference under the auspices of the local society tends to cause enthusiasm in that particular place. The first meeting was held at Grangemouth, at which Mr. Robert Newlands (Camelon) was appointed treasurer, and Mr. George M'Nair member of council for one year. Mrs. Horn (Grahamston and Bainsford) and Mrs. Dickson (Camelon) were appointed

members of the local Parliamentary Committee; and it was agreed to support Mr. Loney for representation on the Scottish Section. Mr. Wm. Gallacher attended and delivered an interesting address on "Co-operators and Parliamentary Representation."

The second meeting was held at Longcroft, at which Messrs. H. Rule (Bainsford and Grahamston) and P. Johnston (Redding) were appointed members of council. A collection was taken on behalf of the Veterans' Association, and £5 was granted the Homes Association and £5 to the Wilkie Fund. The balance, after paying all expenses of the national conference, was added to the conference funds. Mr. John Cairns (manager, St. Cuthbert's Association) attended and delivered a very instructive paper on "Co-operative Farming."

The third meeting was held in Falkirk, at which Mr. Thomas Johnston was appointed secretary and Mr. H. Brock member of council for twelve months. This meeting was held under the auspices of the United Co-operative Baking Society, and Mr. James Young (manager of the society) attended and spoke on the question of "Industrial Councils." This is a question that will have a great amount of consideration in the future, and it was fortunate we had Mr. Young's exposition.

The last meeting was also held at Falkirk, at which Mr. Loney was appointed chairman, and Messrs. Walker and Burt auditors for one year. The consideration of the Survey Report was introduced by Mr. Loney, who fully explained the different points in the report. Several proposals were made, and it was agreed to submit these to the Survey Committee.

Although the attendance has not been as usual, we have no cause to complain of the intelligent interest taken in the discussions which followed the reading of the papers. It is a very healthy sign, and augurs well for future conferences.

We thank the societies under whose auspices we have met for the cordial welcome and generous hospitality extended at all times.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1918:—

Receipts.			Expenditure.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Balance from last year	55	0 7	By Committee's Expenses	20	10 6
" Subscriptions	136	10 5	" Delegations	9	15 0
" Co-operative Union	3	0 0	" Travelling	11	14 10
" Scottish Propaganda Committee	12	18 6	" Purveying at Quarterly Meetings	13	10 0
" Balance from National Conference	9	0 0	" Reading Papers	1	10 0
" Interest	1	8 1	" Propaganda Meetings	13	10 11
" Parliamentary Purposes	33	17 8	" Delegate to Congress	7	9 8
			" Remitted to Veterans' Association	2	12 0
			" Donation to Mr. Wilkie's Widow	5	0 0
			" Co-operative Union Subscription	0	10 0
			" Insurance of Cups	0	5 0
			" Printing and Stationery	17	8 6
			" Hires	7	4 0
			" Fee to L.R.C. Conference	0	1 0
			" Convalescent Homes Association	5	0 0
			" Co-operative Union for Survey		
			Reports	0	9 0
			" Remitted to Local Parliamentary		
			Committee—90%	30	9 6
Carried forward	251	14 10	Carried forward	146	14 11

	£	s.	d.
<i>Brought forward</i>	251	14	10
Audited— GEORGE WALKER. ROBERT BURT.			
	£251	14	10

	£	s.	d.
<i>Brought forward</i>	146	14	11
By Remitted to Scottish Central Parliamentary Committee—10%..	8	5	9
„ Secretary's Postage	4	0	0
„ Treasurer's Postage and Cashing			
Cheques	0	17	6
„ Secretary's Salary	5	0	0
„ Treasurer's „	2	0	0
„ Auditors	0	12	2
„ Local Parliamentary Committee's Expenses	6	16	0
„ Cash in Bank	78	0	0
„ Cash on hand	4	8	2
	£251	14	10

THOMAS JOHNSTON, Secretary.

No. 6.—FIFE AND KINROSS.

Executive Committee:

Mr. John King, J.P. (president), Cowdenbeath.
 „ Archibald Stewart (treasurer), Leven.
 „ John Patterson (secretary), Burntisland.
 „ David Peebles (auditor), Dunfermline.

Mr. Alex. H. Gillespie, J.P., Buckhaven.
 „ John Balfour, Kirkcaldy.
 „ George Wright, Dunfermline.
 „ Thomas Cowan, Kelty.
 „ Thomas Gairns, East Wemyss.
 „ Peter McConnell, J.P. (Honorary Member), Kirkcaldy.

Apart from the end of the war, the event of most absorbing interest to co-operators has been our attempt to have direct representation in Parliament. The result cannot be regarded as satisfactory, when only one solitary member sits at Westminster as the nominee of the movement.

But the future is ours, and we can and will make up for the apparent failure of our first essay in the political struggle by a greater effort at the next election.

Every issue before the public seems to subside before the imposing dimensions of the problems affecting remuneration and conditions of labour and the acute housing crisis caused by the almost complete cessation of building since 1914. We, both as citizens and as co-operators, cannot refuse to direct our thoughts to these questions, and amid our own domestic worries we must bring considered and mature reflection to fruition by our active participation in the solution of the multitudinous problems confronting our fellow-citizens at the present time.

In the efforts at propaganda throughout our own conference area during the past year, the needs of those members who have joined our societies during the stress of war have been kept in view, since, it should be remembered, that though in many cases it may appear that the preaching was being directed towards the “converted,” the influx of such a number under the co-operative banner may only be influenced by the pecuniary advantage to be obtained and may lack the inspiration of that spirit underlying all true co-operative effort. We must, therefore, be on our guard against decay from within, conscious that no external opposition, however strong, can bar our path to progress or lessen our incentive to achieve our ideals.

QUARTERLY MEETINGS.

These meetings have been more than usually interesting, and the attendance at them has been above the average of previous years. The spirit displayed by the delegates taking part in the discussion has shown a desire for enlightenment on the subjects brought forward.

The February meeting was held in the Co-operative Hall, Pathhead, Kirkcaldy, under the auspices of that society. Baillie Wheatly (Glasgow), in a very able address, introduced the Housing Question.

The May meeting was held under the auspices of West Wemyss Society. Being the annual meeting, the secretary's annual report and statistical statement, also treasurer's cash statement, were considered, and after some discussion accepted. Election of executive.

Mr. Gillespie submitted his report and impressions of the Liverpool Congress. It was agreed to increase the conference subscriptions by societies and affiliated associations by 100 per cent, to meet increased expense in connection with organising the co-operative vote and contributions to National Parliamentary and Advisory Committees.

The August meeting was held under the auspices of Cowdenbeath Society. A paper by Mr. James Deans (secretary, Scottish Section) on "Direct Co-operative Parliamentary Representation," was read by the secretary, in the unavoidable absence of Mr. Deans. Mr. Robert Donaldson (Leith) delivered an address on "The Aims and Possibilities of Men's Guilds." The special committee for organising the co-operative vote was re-elected for another year.

The November meeting was held under the auspices of Lochgelly Society. The Co-operative Union Survey Committee's report, "Constitution of the Union," was introduced by Mr. George Wilson (Scottish Section).

The question of a branch or dépôt of the Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society being established in Fife was under consideration and remitted to the Executive to deal with when opportunity offered.

WAGES BOARD.

The services of the Board have not been very much in evidence during the past year. Only with one case in dispute with employees has the Board been called upon to deal. The constitution of this Board is not favourably viewed by a few of the boards of management, and its revision has been agreed to and remitted to a special committee.

PROPAGANDA MEETINGS.

Under the auspices of the National Propaganda Committee, several meetings were held in the district during the summer. The attendances at such meetings, we regret, were not encouraging.

CONCLUSION.

We have to tender our thanks to those societies who have under very difficult circumstances arranged for our convenience as to meetings and hospitality, and our thanks are also due to those who introduced the subjects

for discussion, thereby making our meetings interesting and so helping on the work of the association.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1918:—

[illegible]

JOHN PATTERSON, Secretary.

No. 7.—NORTH-EASTERN DISTRICT

(FORFARSHIRE, PERTHSHIRE, AND ABERDEENSHIRE).

Executive Committee.

Mr. John Muir (president), Dundee.	Mr. J. D. Howie, Arbroath.
„ Alfred O'Neil (secretary), Brechin.	„ George Wilson, Aberdeen.
„ D. G. Merchant (treasurer), Monifieth.	„ J. L. Whyte, Monifieth.
„ Robert Stewart (statistical secretary), Perth.	„ A. R. Dougall, Auchterarder.
	„ J. F. Chalmers, Arbroath.
	„ J. A. Smith, Forfar.

Honorary Member: Mr. G. J. Mathews, Perth.

The following is a brief abstract of the report for 1918 issued to the members :—

In the pursuance of our work we have met with continued success, and witnessed excellent results of our teaching and influence.

The following conferences were held :—

Date.	Place of Meeting.	Subject.	Speaker:	Attendance.
1918. April.	Monifieth ..	The Co-operative Political Programme and Parliamentary Representation.	Mr. A. M. Welsh, Glasgow.	92
July.	Forfar	Aims and Objects of the Co-operative Men's Guild.	Mr. G. M. Wilson, President, Scottish Council National Men's Guild.	88
Oct.	Kirriemuir .	Farming by Co-operative Societies.	Mr. John Cairns, J.P., Manager, St. Cuthbert's Association, Edinburgh.	81
1919. Jan.	Arbroath ..	Trade Report of the Survey Committee.	Mr. A. O'Neil, Brechin.	131

Several questions were taken up with Government Departments, *e.g.*, protest at fixing of a datum period for fuel rationing instead of registration of consumers, demand for a flat rate of carriage on flour, resolution in favour of improved allowances to wounded soldiers and sailors and their dependants.

CHANGE OF ASSOCIATION'S NAME.

A complete revision of rules was effected at the October conference. The most notable change is the name of the association, which is now the North-Eastern District Co-operative Conference Association. The old familiar cognomen—Forfarshire, Perthshire, and Aberdeenshire—is retained as a sub-title.

NEW MEMBERS.

Forfar Victoria Coal Society was admitted to membership; also the North-East branch of the National Co-operative Managers' Association, which was formed during the year, and the Scottish Council, National Men's Guild.

AMALGAMATION OF SOCIETIES.

The two Carnoustie societies were united. Attempts to amalgamate several of the Forfar societies only failed through lack of sufficient majorities at the meetings. A joint sub-committee representing all the Arbroath societies has been appointed to consider and report on the question of amalgamation of interests.

PROPAGANDA.

Successful meetings were held in Forfar, Arbroath, Carnoustie, and Bervie.

EDUCATION.

An educational committee has been formed by Aberdeen Northern Society. Hitherto the directors organised classes for employees. The new committee will extend and co-ordinate educational work among all sections of the members.

The work of the older educational committees in the district—Perth, Dundee, Brechin, and Arbroath—has proceeded quietly under restrictions of war conditions, but more activities are anticipated when settled times again prevail.

DEFENCE FUND.

Receipts.	£	s.	d.	Expenditure.	£	s.	d.
To Balance from 1917	52	11	2	By Railway Fares	9	14	8½
„ Subscriptions.....	16	0	0	„ Lost Time	3	11	6
				„ Allowances.....	4	2	6
				„ Printing, &c.	0	17	6
				„ Hall Rents	0	3	6
				„ Postages, &c.....	1	2	2
				„ Stationery	0	7	3
				„ Subscription Scottish Parliamentary Representation Committee	1	12	0
				„ Balance—Cash in Bank.....	47	0	0½
	£68	11	2		£68	11	2

EDUCATION FUND.

Receipts.	£	s.	d.	Expenditure.	£	s.	d.
To Balance from 1917	15	1	5	By Railway Fares	3	4	5
„ Subscriptions.....	15	3	0	„ Lost Time	0	18	0
				„ Allowances.....	1	5	0
				„ Fee to Reader of Paper.....	1	1	0
				„ Printing, &c.	10	2	0
				„ Hall Rent	1	2	6
				„ Postages, &c.....	0	12	3
				„ Workers' Educational Association	0	5	0
				„ Co-operative Union Research....	1	5	0
				„ Reference Library, Dublin	0	5	0
				„ College Herald Circle	0	10	6
				„ Balance—Cash in Bank.....	9	13	9
	£30	4	5		£30	4	5

Audited—
DAVID SMALL.

ALFRED O'NEIL, Secretary.

No. 8.—GLASGOW AND SUBURBS.

Executive Committee.

Mr. John M. Biggar (president), Milngavie.	Mr. John Richardson, Dumbarton.
„ Walter Weir (secretary), Kinning Park.	„ Alex. Strang, Cowlares.
„ William Pettigrew (treasurer), St. Rollox.	„ Charles Hamilton, Shettleston.
„ A.R. Chaddock (statistical secretary), Kinning Park.	„ Malcolm Ross, Glasgow Eastern.
„ Archibald Henderson (auditor), St. George.	„ James Russell, St. Rollox.
	Mrs. Anderson, Kinning Park.
	Mr. William Mason, Dalmuir.
	„ Robert Greig, Vale of Leven.
	„ James Bowie, St. George.

We send on our report this year with a more hopeful outlook than has obtained with the four preceding ones, and now that the war has ceased we must set our faces to the problems confronting us as co-operators.

We are pleased to say that confusion prevailing generally does not exist in our area, so far as our movement is concerned, because the demobilised men are being absorbed in their former employment as they present themselves, which gives us the opinion that if re-settlement had been organised by co-operative officials the present industrial unrest would have been obviated in a very large degree.

Then we have the economic problem immediately with us, in evidence of which we have already large syndicates amalgamating with each other and prospecting for additional share capital in millions of pounds. This lesson must be taken in earnest by co-operators, as the more immense these combines grow the greater becomes the competition between private trading and co-operative trading. From this our policy must be the intense amalgamation of co-operative interests, both in distribution and production. We hope our societies will therefore look upon any amalgamation scheme which may be brought forward as a prime necessity for our co-operative existence, and not, as hitherto, with that parochial attitude which has characterised many of our attempts at amalgamation. We also advise our members to allow their societies to retain as much capital as possible, so that they may be able to play their part in the development and reconstruction which are inevitable in the near future. We as working men and women have used the industrial and economic weapon to more or less good purpose, but from the results of the recent Parliamentary election we have made poor use of our newly-acquired weapon as co-operators, viz., the political, with its millions of new voters. We have listened to these political conjurers once again, and thrown away our chance of bringing the co-operative commonwealth one step nearer. We ask our constituents to take the lesson and do much better in local elections, which will be taking place this year.

We are hopeful that with a greater effort on the part of our association, in co-operation with the other educational agencies in our midst, we will be able to set co-operation on that pinnacle aimed at by the pioneers, viz., to take over the production, distribution, education, and government of our country.

EDUCATIONAL WORK AND CLASSES.

This work has been going on among our societies pretty much as usual. The chief forward movement is the rapid extension of men's guilds, and one society, viz., Kinning Park, is making an effective attempt to bridge the period between co-operative childhood and manhood, and have now a flourishing institution in the Comrades' Circle for youths of both sexes from sixteen years upward. This example is likely to be followed by many societies in our area.

We are organising an essay competition for juniors, for which six of our societies have set up classes for the study of "Our Story." We hope to develop this theme to a greater extent in the future.

PROPAGANDA.

In conjunction with the National Propaganda Committee, we have carried through eight meetings. They were held as follow :—At Glasgow (St George), Bridgeton, Milngavie, Pollokshaws, Cambuslang, Tollcross, St. Rollox, and Duntocher. Some were very encouraging, some the reverse; but we hope by the introduction of new methods of propaganda to reach the ear of a larger community than by indoor meetings. We also sent speakers during the year to 57 women's guilds, where we got good meetings ready-made. We

had the help of the Executives of Section I. and II., and in all cases our missionaries got a good reception. Much information anent the women's vote was thus imparted, and if co-operators did not get into Parliament it was not the fault of our council and its willing helpers.

CONFERENCES.

We held four quarterly conferences, as follows :—At Bridgeton (Glasgow Eastern), where the report and proposals of our Public Bodies Representation Committee was introduced by Mr. Bowie, the discussion of which was continued at a special meeting in March, under the auspices of Progress Society. The May meeting was held at Alexandria, where Mr. Robert Smillie gave an address on the subject, "Labour in Industry after Reconstruction." The August meeting was held at Cowlairst. Mr. A. M. Scott (the general manager of Alloa Society) gave an interesting paper on "Food Distribution in War Time from a Co-operative Management Standpoint."

Our November meeting was held in Glasgow, under the auspices of the Civic Press Limited. We had Mr. H. N. Brailsford, who gave an address, the subject of which was "International Reconstruction and a League of Nations." We also held our usual annual conference with educational committees, where we discussed our proposals for the following year.

Our conferences were all of an enthusiastic character, keen and interesting discussions taking place, and we wish to express our gratitude to societies which gave us the necessary facilities for meeting.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1918:—

Receipts.			Expenditure		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Balance brought forward	184	6 3	By Postage, Postal Orders, &c.....	4	11 8
„ Subscriptions Societies and Associations	887	7 1	„ Committee's Allowance	78	14 6
„ Collection for Co-op. Veterans' Associations	5	8 8	„ Travelling Expenses	46	12 10
„ Scottish Co-operative Propaganda Committee	12	10 0	„ Lost Time	12	19 11
„ Advertisements	4	10 0	„ Printing and Stationery	33	19 7
„ Bank Interest	3	17 2	„ Salaries	25	1 6
			„ Rent—Committee Meetings	5	0 0
			„ Speakers at Conferences	7	5 0
			„ Boot Class Expenses	9	7 0
			„ Liverpool Congress Delegate	9	15 6
			„ Summer School Delegates	15	12 6
			„ Insurance of Council	1	15 0
			„ Co-operative News	3	5 0
			„ Co-operative Educator	0	7 8
			„ Scottish Co-operator	3	18 0
			„ Propaganda Meetings Expenses	23	17 0
			„ Donations	27	6 10
			„ Collection, Co-operative Veterans	5	8 8
			„ Guild Propaganda Work	8	18 4
			„ Purvey at Conferences	62	3 4
			„ Sundry Expenses	0	15 9
			„ Defence Fund	106	0 0
			„ Share Co-operative Convalescent Homes Association	1	0 0
			„ Share in Scottish Co-operator Newspaper Society	1	0 0
			„ Share in Scottish Co-operative Veterans' Association	1	0 0
			„ Cash in Bank and on Hand	302	8 7
£797 19 2			£797 19 2		

Andited—

ARCHIBALD HENDERSON.

WALTER WEIR, Secretary.

No. 9.—RENFREWSHIRE.

Executive Committee.

Mr. William C. Barr (president), Johnstone.	Mr. James Crookston, Port Glasgow.
„ Donald Mackerron (secretary), Greenock.	„ A. Macdonald, Port Glasgow.
„ John Muir (treasurer), Elderslie.	„ Wm. Inglis, Renfrew.
„ John Paton (statistical secretary), Paisley.	„ M'Hutchison, Johnstone.
	„ A. M. Fraser (auditor), Paisley.

Scottish Section's Representative: Mr. P. J. Agnew, Coatbridge.

The committee have pleasure in again submitting for consideration the report and statistical statement for the past twelve months.

The difficulties brought about by the great conflict have been weighing heavily upon us all for the past four years, and even yet we cannot tell what the aftermath of war may bring to us as co-operators and the industrial community in general. We seem to be beset by an impenetrable wall of high costs, which bears very hardly on the very poor; far more hardly than any compensation they may have received in the shape of increased wages.

The food problem during the war was serious at all times, but more especially to co-operators, who at no time received fair play from the Government officials. Shortage in all classes of goods was general, due in a great measure to that co-operative bogey, the "datum period," which was surely devised to take advantage of all co-operators. Meetings and conferences were held in every part of the country, at which resolutions and suggestions were passed and forwarded to the authorities, without bringing result other than showing co-operators how powerless they were without having the constitutional means of enforcing justice. Government control was necessary under the circumstances, and if it had been fairly carried out we should have had no cause for complaint, but under the methods adopted there was no equality of sacrifice nor any attempt made to rectify mistakes when pointed out.

To boards of management and officials who have borne the heat and burden of the past years, we sincerely hope that the worst is past, and that they may now have some reward for all their labour by increased trade and more loyalty and appreciation from the members.

During the year we have had our usual conference meetings, as follows:—Our February meeting was held in the Clarence Street Halls under the auspices of the Drapery and Furnishing Co-operative Society, Glasgow, at which Mr. Regan (of Rutherglen) gave a splendid address on "The Dawn of Democracy." Our May meeting was held under the auspices of the Pollokshaws Society, and took the form of a farewell gathering, as Pollokshaws Society had decided to link up with the Glasgow and Suburbs Conference for convenience, as their Parliamentary boundary was now within the City of Glasgow. The question for consideration at this meeting was "Political Representation and the Formation of Defence Committees," with the need for agreeing to the levy called for, if the work was to be carried on. The secretary explained the position and the need for immediate action, and it

was agreed to give the Executive power to go on if expedient. Our August meeting was held under the auspices of the two Port Glasgow societies, to celebrate the amalgamation which had been agreed upon. Mr. James Deans was the speaker, and dealt in his usual masterly way with amalgamation and its benefits. The November meeting, as usual, was held in Paisley, under the auspices of the four societies, at which Mr. W. F. Stewart (of the Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society's flour mills) criticised the Survey Committee's report.

The Defence Committee set up within our area has done excellent work, and the greatest credit is due to their strenuous secretary for the very efficient manner in which the work was done.

We had the honour to be one of the conference areas in which a co-operative candidate was run for Parliament, and I am sure we must all have felt very gratified at the close result of the election. If co-operators had been loyal there would have been no doubt about the result. However, we have made a beginning, and we have good reason to congratulate ourselves on the result. It is our duty, now that we have put our hand to the plough, to persevere in our efforts until success is attained. Our attention should be directed towards those whom we thought co-operators, but who failed us at the poll. In Mr. J. M. Biggar, Paisley co-operators have a sound, staunch co-operator, and we certainly have great hope that he will yet be Paisley's member of Parliament. Another co-operator was run in the joint interests of Labour and Co-operation, viz., Mr. R. Murray, who stood for West Renfrewshire, and who made a good impression, but vested interests were too strong. However, we hope to see Mr. Murray standing again, and next time exclusively as a co-operator. In East Renfrewshire the Labour candidate was also recommended for the co-operative vote, but as he was practically unknown this told against him. And now we hope the Defence Committee will turn their attention to the local elections, representation at which is as necessary for co-operators as Parliamentary representation. There is a great work before candidates, and we wish them every success in their efforts, which will only be obtained after many sacrifices and disappointments and much hard work.

Propaganda work has been carried on, notwithstanding the many difficulties societies have had to encounter, and we hope a great increase in effort along these lines will be possible in the near future, when things become a little more normal and societies are once again in a position to cater for all the wants of their members.

Women's guilds have maintained their position and influence with unabated vigour, and we hope that an added interest will now become apparent in their meetings, owing to the possibilities which lie before them in organising and educating the rank and file of the co-operative movement to the responsibility which now rests upon them in connection with the use of the vote, which has become theirs at last.

OBITUARY.

The movement is the poorer to-day for the loss during the year of two

No. 10.—STIRLING, WEST OF FIFE, AND CLACKMANNAN.

Executive Committee.

Mr. J. Dunley (president), Alloa.	Mr. McLeod, Dunfermline.
„ G. Wilson (treas.), Bannockburn.	„ J. Kettrick, Newtonshaw.
„ W. M'Isaac (secretary), Tillicoultry.	„ T. Cochrane, Alva.
„ T. Jinks (auditor), Newtonshaw.	„ W. Cook, Coalsnaughton.

We have pleasure in issuing the annual report of our Conference Association for the year just gone. We do so with more hopeful feelings and a great deal less anxiety than has been our experience for the last four years. The upheaval of war found us unprepared, and the transformation to peace is going to find us as far from preparation. Industrial unrest is very apparent in the country, and the cause of such disquieting circumstances will require firm and diplomatic handling. It must be the desire of all, especially after the sacrifices that have been made, that the process and promise of reconstruction that has been held up to us in such magnificent colours will emerge with an improved outlook on many social problems concerning the workers of this and other nations.

During the year our meetings have been, as formerly, our usual quarterly conferences, at which interesting and educative subjects have been introduced and discussed. The following is a list of subjects and speakers:—23rd February, “The Necessity of Men’s Guilds,” by Mr. G. Wilson, Glasgow; 25th May, “Education and the Workers,” by Mr. R. Hay, Dunfermline; 31st August, “The Constitution of the Co-operative Union,” by Mr. G. Wilson, Bannockburn; 16th November, “Survey Committee’s Trade Report,” by Mr. A. Purdie, Edinburgh. We cannot pass the special conference held on the 30th March, at which Mr. William Adamson, M.P., delivered an able address on “Co-operation and Direct Parliamentary Representation.”

To the various societies visited during the year our warmest thanks are due for the generous hospitality bestowed, for the intelligent intercourse enjoyed, and for the friendships formed in our gathering together. The sympathy displayed for our comfort assures us that we are appreciated, and we can only hope that the consideration we have received is merited, and that it will have its reflex in the strenuous days that are ahead.

Of the year just entered great hopes are entertained. Many reforms and improvements must necessarily be introduced in the scheme of reconstruction. As members of a movement that has always had for its object the uplifting of the workers, it is our duty to see what is done is to benefit those who are in most need of the change to take place.

(6) SOUTHERN SECTION.

The Board held thirteen meetings during the year, of which twelve were ordinary and one special.

The attendances of the members of the Board were as follows:—

	Possible.	Actual.	Absent.
Mr. J. H. Bate	13	.. 13	.. —
Mr. W. T. Charter	13	.. 12	.. *1
Mr. M. H. Clear	13	.. 13	.. —
Mr. S. Foulger	13	.. 13	.. —
Mrs. M. A. Gasson	13	.. 13	.. —
Mr. A. Hainsworth.....	13	.. 11	.. *2
Mr. E. King	13	.. 13	.. —
Mr. R. Rowsell.....	13	.. 13	.. —
Mr. W. J. Salmon	13	.. 13	.. —

* On business connected with the Board.

The following appointments were made at the first meeting of the Board, held 29th May, 1918:—

Chairman Mr. R. Rowsell.

Sectional Executive Mrs. M. A. Gasson, Messrs. W. T. Charter, M. H. Clear, R. Rowsell, and E. King.

Boundaries Committee.. The members composing the Executive.

Representatives to the—

United Board Messrs. R. Rowsell and A. Hainsworth.

Office Committee..... Mr. R. Rowsell.

Central Education Committee..... Mrs. M. A. Gasson.

Co-operative Representation Committee Mr. S. Foulger.

Southern Education Association Messrs. J. H. Bate and W. J. Salmon.

Progress in membership has not been so great in 1918 as 1917, as the figures given below, obtained from 144 distributive societies, demonstrate. This is stated to be due to the fact that for a certain period when the shortage of supplies was acute societies declined to accept new members. There is an increase of 7,582 members, as compared with a total increase in all distributive societies in the Southern Section of 49,160 in 1917. We must expect to see, therefore, when the full returns are issued, that not more than 10,000 new members have been added during 1918.

On the other hand there has been a marked development in purchasing power, the increase shown below being £1,712,268, against a total increase in the section for the year 1917 of £1,649,278. The sales per head in the

144 societies reporting below were in 1917 £26, 14s. 10d., and in 1918 £29, 13s. 4d., a rise of £2, 18s. 6d. per head. Capital increased by £622,105.

DISTRICT.	No. of Societies.	Members.		Sales.		Share Capital.	
		1917.	1918.	1917.	1918.	1917.	1918.
Metropolitan ...	21	210,809	211,689	5,249,863	6,045,500	1,854,082	2,059,237
Surrey	5	9,314	10,585	299,712	353,472	97,417	116,059
Kent	18	51,578	52,771	1,673,274	1,765,530	564,558	619,065
Sussex	7	14,817	14,921	356,364	404,093	131,287	150,076
Hants.	13	48,425	49,398	1,241,751	1,403,204	445,183	511,477
Wilts. & Dorset.	9	17,011	17,671	472,610	520,562	148,975	176,486
Oxford.....	13	47,089	47,524	1,172,950	1,294,272	543,639	611,218
Cambridge.....	10	15,662	16,428	352,407	447,561	128,673	151,898
Norfolk	14	27,616	27,915	788,665	874,063	225,411	243,856
Essex & Suffolk.	16	42,800	43,509	1,309,629	1,412,042	463,029	529,590
Beds. & Bucks..	18	23,561	23,953	686,363	795,593	257,200	312,597
Productive Societies	144	508,682	516,264	13,603,588	15,315,856	4,859,454	5,481,559
	6	5,709	6,160	793,396	757,175	16,391	27,420
TOTAL ...	150	514,391	522,424	14,396,984	16,073,031	4,875,845	5,508,979

Altogether there is much in the situation to inspire hope and encourage effort. It has long been seen that greater loyalty on the part of existing members is of more importance to the prosperity of societies than a mere numerical multiplication of "heads" lacking real interest in the movement. A wider dissemination of the principles of co-operation will certainly lead to more and better business. If societies are prepared to cater for an increased membership there is little doubt that growth will follow.

SECTIONAL CONFERENCES.

The following conferences have been held during 1918-19:—

Date.	Subject.	Introduced by
1918.		
5th Oct. ..	Co-operative Political Questions.....	Miss J. P. Madams. Mr. W. T. Charter. Mr. E. King.
16th Nov. .	Constitution of the Co-operative Union (paper by Mr. T. Horrocks).	Mr. W. T. Charter.
1919.		
1st Feb. ..	Co-operative Reconstruction (United Board's Circular).	Mr. W. T. Charter. Mr. W. J. Salmon. Mr. S. Foulger.
22nd March	Subscriptions to the Co-operative Union ...	Mr. F. Hayward (United Board).

At the first conference three resolutions were adopted—(1) Welcoming Mr. Fisher's Education Bill, and asking for further educational facilities to be provided; (2) Urging co-operators to amass capital in their societies for the purpose of accelerating the time when a Co-operative Commonwealth will be attained; (3) Welcoming the establishment of a League of Nations as an essential for the prevention of war.

One of the interesting points made at the second conference was contributed by a delegate who suggested that the time was near when there should be a merging of co-operative authority in one organisation to deal with all phases of the movement—trading, propaganda, education, legal advice, &c.

The points emphasised at the third conference were—(1) Co-operative Development and Extension; (2) Increase of Capital; and (3) Propaganda. There was a good discussion.

The fourth conference gave proof that societies in this section believe heartily in the work of the Co-operative Union. A resolution (moved by a delegate) urging those present to recommend their committees to instruct representatives to Congress to vote for increased subscriptions being paid to the Union, was carried unanimously.

PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION.

In addition to the four regular conferences a special conference was held at Woking to discuss Proportional Representation. This was undertaken in consequence of the proposal contained in the Representation of the People Act, 1918, to apply the principles of Proportional Representation to the following Parliamentary Divisions in the county of Surrey:—Chertsey, Eastern, Epsom, Farnham, Guildford, Mitcham, and Reigate, as constituted under the new Act. The seven divisions named are represented in Parliament by seven members. It was proposed that the divisions should be combined so as to form two single constituencies, with four and three members each. A model election was carried through by the lecturer (Mr. John H. Humphreys, of the Proportional Representation Society) and a most interesting afternoon was experienced. Unfortunately the proposals to institute Proportional Representation were thrown out by the House of Commons in a manner which reflected little credit upon its members, and the value of the conference remains of an educational nature only.

NATIONAL FINANCE.

In view of the serious situation in which the nation stands as a result of the stupendous expenditure upon war, the Sectional Board forwarded the following resolution to the Central Board, by whom it was unanimously adopted:—

That, as the Government is now seriously considering what means to adopt for the purpose of liquidating the enormous burdens thrown upon the nation by the cost of war, this meeting emphatically affirms that the only equitable method will be

a direct tax carefully graduated to adjust the burden to the capacity of the taxpayers in accordance with their incomes and/or stored wealth, and demand's the withdrawal of all indirect taxes which have the effect of increasing the cost of necessities to consumers.

It would be well if this question could be brought to the front, in order that the Government may be induced to lift the burden in this, the only possible way.

AMALGAMATIONS.

Several amalgamations have taken place during the year, the most conspicuous being that of the three large and prosperous societies at Bromley, Croydon, and Penge. The coming together of three societies of this description is unusual, and it is worth stating what steps were taken to accomplish it. In the first place there had been talk between the three societies about federation for special purposes, *e.g.*, a joint model bakery, &c. After considerable discussion, however, a suggestion was made that it would be better to amalgamate rather than be content with federation. This new proposal was tentatively discussed by the committees, and the officials of the three societies were instructed to come together to devise a scheme that would satisfy all the interests involved. A scheme was drawn up and submitted to the various organisations for consideration, then discussed by the committees, and, finally, after a good deal of propaganda during a period of two or three years, was submitted to the members. Resolutions in favour of amalgamation were then carried almost unanimously. The new organisation resulting from the amalgamation is known as the South Suburban Co-operative Society, and has 23,700 members; £163,000 capital; and sales £540,000. The prospects are extremely good. The example is one that may be commended to other societies similarly circumstanced. Special attention is directed to the important work done by the permanent officials in this case.

The Bletchley Distributive Society has taken over the Bletchley Mutual Coal Society after a rather lengthy course of negotiations. The members seem to be benefiting from the change.

Cambridge Society and Bishop's Stortford Society have come together, the engagements of the latter having been transferred at full value to Cambridge. The amalgamation is one that has been under consideration for several years, but had been deferred owing to difficulties caused by the war.

Another successful amalgamation is that of Portsea Island and Petersfield (Hants), as a result of communications passing between the two societies, who came together voluntarily and agreed terms with practically no difficulty.

Discussions have taken place between the Edmonton and Hendon societies with a view to fusion. In the midst of the negotiations a proposal was put forward for the amalgamation of all the societies in the area stretching from Edmonton to Staines, whereupon the Hendon Society decided to suspend negotiations with Edmonton. Changes have since taken place which make amalgamation more remote than at one time appeared likely.

BOUNDARIES.

Considerable activity has prevailed with respect to the delimitation of boundaries between societies. The following have been able to fix up satisfactory arrangements :

Enfield and St. Albans, Kingston and Staines, Cambridge and Enfield, Hemel Hempstead and St. Albans, and West London and Kingston.—Negotiations are proceeding between Addlestone and Staines, and Kingston and Woolwich.

NEW SOCIETIES AND GROUPS.

Rocquettes (Guernsey).—A new society has been formed here and rules have been registered. It is known as the Co-operative Workers' Society, and the business undertaken first will be a bread bakery. Other departments to be added later.

The group of people at Rye, mentioned in the 1917 report, and now numbering 130, have subscribed a 'capital of £560. This was originally invested with the Ashford Society in the hope that that society would open a branch at Rye. Unfortunately, Ashford has not been able to see its way to open such a branch, and the capital and membership have been transferred to the Hastings Society, which is prepared to undertake the responsibility.

Swanage.—Some 70 people living at Swanage have subscribed a capital of £230. The membership and capital are increasing weekly, and it is hoped that the Parkstone and Bournemouth society will open a branch to meet the wants of these members.

Lymington.—A similar group has been formed in this place, and will receive assistance from the Southampton Society, first by way of delivery of goods, and later by the opening of a branch.

Ryde (Isle of Wight).—The Cowes Society have agreed to establish a branch at Ryde in response to the appeal of a number of residents.

A society has been registered under the Industrial and Provident Societies Act for the purpose of developing transport by road, rail, and canal in the area between Bristol and Poole Harbour. This very ambitious scheme will entail the control of docks and harbours, and the development of a line of shipping from Poole Harbour to Cherbourg in France. The rules have been signed by the mayors of eight boroughs in the localities affected.

NEW MEMBER OF CO-OPERATIVE UNION.

The Kingshill Society, Swindon, has applied for affiliation to the Union. It is hoped that the few societies in the section now remaining outside the Union will see the advantages to be obtained by united effort, and come within the fold.

SUMMER SCHOOL.

For the first time in this section a Summer School was held in conditions which gave the students an experience of associated life, the place being Cordwalles College, Maidenhead. It was thoroughly enjoyed. There

were 51 students during the first week, of whom 25 came from the London area, and 51 during the second week, of whom 28 were from London.

All the lectures and classes were well attended, every student being both delighted and instructed by what they heard. Lectures and addresses were given by Professor F. Hall, Miss M. E. Bradley, Mr. Wilson Clayton, and Mr. B. Williams.

The good fellowship usually attributed to summer schools was exhibited at Maidenhead in full degree. The outings and social evenings were extremely successful, being planned by committees of students which were formed to undertake all the arrangements. Many expressions of regret were heard when the school broke up at each week-end.

A typical expression was that from a lady and gentleman who said they had been going to the seaside for holidays for 30 years, but had never experienced such a pleasant and happy time, and they would certainly not omit a summer school from their future summer programmes. The matron and maids at the college showed their interest in and appreciation of the school in many ways.

CLASSES FOR WOMEN.

Classes for women, under the Central Education Committee's scheme, have been or are being held at Stratford, Leyton, Bromley, Croydon, Enfield, Southfields, and South Ealing. All have been well attended, and in each case applications have been made for further courses, showing that the tuition has been fully appreciated.

DIRECT REPRESENTATION.

Politically, in the co-operative sense, the Southern Section has not been as active as some others. No co-operative candidate for Parliament was put forward, though assistance has been given in one or two cases to Labour co-operative candidates. On the surface there is little prospect that such a candidate will be forthcoming even at the next general election. None the less, a good deal of spadework is being done with respect to municipal politics, and a fair number of co-operators were elected at the spring elections. Electoral councils are wisely deciding to make good on the local governing bodies before entering seriously into national politics.

Eight two-days, and four one-day Political Schools have been held in the section, with a total of 629 students.

DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS.

The two London District Associations (*i.e.*, North and South Metropolitan) having been combined into one organisation, it was found necessary to make some changes in other districts. The Brentwood Society was transferred to Essex and Suffolk, the Chesham and Chesham Boot societies to the Beds. and Bucks. District, and a new Surrey District was formed, comprising Addlestone, Aldershot, Guildford, Godalming, Gomshall, Haslemere, and Woking. The new secretary is Mr. Allen Bishop, 37, Grosvenor Road, Aldershot.

On Saturday, March 15th, a conference of delegates representing this new association and the existing unofficial Surrey Conference Association took place, when it was unanimously decided to merge the two associations into one.

ANNUAL MEETING OF DISTRICT SECRETARIES.

This meeting was held on Saturday, October 5th, 1918, and was attended by the chairmen of the district executives in addition to the secretaries. The Survey Report was the subject of consideration, and a useful discussion took place. Among suggestions put forward was the now familiar proposal that seats on the Sectional Board should be secured by election of district representatives rather than by election over the whole area. The tendency of other representative institutions being rather the other way, there seems little chance of the proposal being generally accepted.

DISTRICT COUNCIL FOR THE BAKING TRADE.

At the request of Mr. G. B. Soddy, a private employing baker at Eastbourne and secretary of a Master Bakers' Association, representatives of societies in the Kent, Sussex, and Hants districts attended conferences at the Central Hall, Westminster, and at the Ministry of Labour, for the purpose of setting up a District Council under the Whitley National Scheme. Eventually a District Council was formed with 12 members representing the Operatives' Union, 9 the private employers, and 3 the co-operative societies, the latter being Messrs. R. Hibberd (Bournemouth), W. Olney (Southampton), and W. A. Wilkinson (Brighton).

At the first meeting of the Council the private employers put forward a proposition that the price of bread should be raised, and the employees did not seem to raise any serious objection. The co-operative representatives, however, objected that the Council had no power to act, and the matter was adjourned to a further meeting.

Shortly afterwards, however, a national application put forward by private employers for an increase in price was rejected by the Food Ministry, whereupon the private employers (including the secretary, Mr. Soddy) withdrew from the District Council.

EDUCATIONAL MATTERS.

The Southern Co-operative Educational Association has had an exceptionally busy year, and the influence it exercised by the issue of a special circular showing how co-operators could make use of the powers of the new Education Act has been widely felt. Several societies have held conferences of their members to enlighten them on the provisions of the Act. The Dartford Society convened a conference of school teachers in its district, with most encouraging results, and it is hoped other societies may convene similar conferences. As a result some watching committees have been set up to press schemes upon local education authorities, and it is urged that these should be established in every district.

SEEKERS FOR INFORMATION.

A great amount of public interest in co-operation has been evident during the year. All sorts of commercial people are infected with the idea of introducing the principle into their private business affairs, mainly with the notion of increasing their profits. Their disappointment when it is shown that co-operation, properly applied, abolishes profit, is sometimes quite amusing. Amongst the inquirers are caterers, ice-cream merchants, Zionists, motor garage proprietors, taxi-cab societies, paper manufacturers, newspaper promoters, Mancing Lane experts, and club members of all kinds. Not one per cent of the inquiries result in any practical steps being taken after the ardour of the inquirers has been cooled by a statement of the real facts of the case.

LITERATURE AND LANTERN SLIDES.

Literature sales amounted to £74. 4s. 3d., including £2. 10s. trade dividend from the Co operative Printing Society in respect of the general sectional printing account. The demand for literature constantly increases, and the opinion grows that management committees would do well to establish literature stalls at their most frequented shops.

Twelve sets of lantern slides, comprising 497 slides, have been sent out. More complaints than usual have been received as to the poor quality of the slides, and the lack of variety. An innovation in this particular department would have a warm welcome.

RECOGNITION OF SERVICES.

The Sectional Board desires to thank most heartily all those who give so generously of their own leisure time to the work of the movement. Secretaries and members of district executives, educational committees, and men's and women's guilds give to the cause much time and thought which often goes unthanked. It is impossible to communicate with such a numerous body individually, and this means is taken of informing them how much their efforts are appreciated. Management committees sometimes have cause to complain that their reward is more in kicks than halfpence, but they may rest assured that their labours have a real measure of appreciation from all, and not least from members of the Sectional Board.

RETIREMENT OF TWO MEMBERS OF THE BOARD.

Mr. A. Hainsworth has been appointed organiser to the Metropolitan District Association, and Mr. R. Rowsell, chairman of the Board during this Congress year, has been selected from 241 applicants for the post of Clerk of Works to the Reading Education Committee. Both members are therefore retiring from the Board with the end of the Congress year. Their colleagues on the Board desire to record their regret at this severance of a long-continued intercourse in connection with the work of the section, and to assure both of the high appreciation in which their services to co-operation

in this particular position have been held. As both have been members of the Board more than ten years, their colleagues have nominated them as honorary members.

R. ROWSELL, Chairman.

B. WILLIAMS, Secretary.

SOUTHERN CO-OPERATIVE CONVALESCENT FUND.

The Fourteenth Annual Report bears evidence to the adverse influences of war conditions, but nevertheless the total results give satisfactory proof that the fund has maintained its usefulness through all the difficulties of the year. Not only has the number of societies in membership increased, but the total amount of subscriptions and donations have also increased by the substantial sum of £205. 8s. 4d.

Following a conference held at Warminster on June 22nd, under the auspices of the Wilts. and Dorset District Committee, at which Miss Webb explained the working of the fund, Andover, Bradford-on-Avon, Calne, Warminster, Weymouth, and Wilton Sidney Herbert societies joined, and, together with Shanklin, make seven new members, while Ipswich has rejoined this year after a lapse of several years.

The amalgamation of Bromley, Croydon, and Penge societies under the title of the South Suburban Society, and the lapse of two other members for the past two years, make the effective strength of the fund 103 societies.

The subscriptions from societies amount to £1,303. 6s. 6d., and the committee again have to thank Mrs. Wiggins (Oxford) for a donation of 6s., Mrs. Holder (Woking) for 5s., and a Swindon friend for a donation of 10s.

Grants have been made to 46 societies in respect of 228 convalescents, and to 10 societies in respect of 32 grants for surgical aid and dental benefits. The total amount of net grants made to convalescents was £852. 11s. 6d., an increase of three cases, and of £46. 17s. 1d. in the amount of grants.

Contributions from convalescents have this year amounted to £87. 13s. 11d., of which total one sum of £25 came from the Woking Soldiers and Sailors' Pensions Committee on behalf of a co-operator who was affected by tuberculosis as a result of his service in the army.

The management expenses amounted to £129. 2s. 5½d., an increase of £18. 18s. 2d., due mainly to the increased cost of printing, postage, &c.

The anxiety of members to be fit for work at a too early stage of convalescence led to serious relapses at the end of a journey in three cases, and has involved a longer stay away than was at first anticipated in a number of other cases. The epidemic of influenza brought a number of applications on behalf of members whose health was seriously debilitated by the disease and its complications, and for whom a change of four weeks or longer was necessary to restore them to health.

The following resolution was passed unanimously at the annual meeting held on February 22nd, 1919 :—

That this annual meeting of the Southern Co-operative Convalescent Fund directs the attention of the Health Insurance Commissioners to the deplorable lack of accommodation for tuberculosis cases requiring institutional treatment, and calls upon the Commissioners to at once provide some adequate provision for their treatment

REPORTS OF THE DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS.

No. 1.—METROPOLITAN.

Executive Committee.

Mr. A. C. Burn (chairman), West London.	Mr. G. H. Pightling, Epping.
„ B. Williams (secretary).	„ F. C. Ramsay, Gray's.
„ A. Hainsworth (organiser).	„ W. Stewart, South Suburban.
„ C. J. Beese, Staines.	„ H. H. Thorne, Yiewsley.
„ T. O. Cain, Enfield.	„ W. Tongue, Kingston.
„ J. Dickinson, Woolwich	„ A. Wiggins, Watford.
„ W. J. Foster, London Anchor.	„ J. H. Bate (Sectional Board).
„ W. E. Harlen, Willesden.	Mrs. M. A. Gasson (Sectional Board).
„ F. P. Haywood, Perseverance.	Mr. A. W. Golightly (Joint Propaganda Committee).
„ E. Irwin, Croxley.	„ A. Whitehead (Joint Propaganda Committee).
„ T. I. Lethaby, Stratford.	
„ J. Maton, Edmonton.	

The combination of these two associations into one organisation was foreshadowed in the 1917-18 report. The proposal has been adopted, and the associations have carried on active work during the year with the aid of a special grant from the Joint Propaganda Committee. The sectional secretary acts as permanent secretary to the associations, and Mr. A. Hainsworth has been appointed to the position of organiser to the London district.

Three district conferences have been held, as follows :—

Date.	Subject.	Reader of Paper.
12th October	Central Headquarters for the Co-operative Movement.	Mr. B. Williams.
30th November	The Need of Propaganda in London	Mr. A. Hainsworth.
8th March	The Need and Organisation of Canvassing.	Mr. A. Hainsworth.

All three conferences were numerously attended, and have clearly demonstrated that this centralisation of union work will lead to a great extension of co-operation in London. The paper on the establishment of a central headquarters elicited an encouraging letter from Mr. Ben. Jones, whose name was for so long connected with the movement in London; and Mr. C. W. Bowerman, M.P., has several times since, in conferences and public meetings, referred to the question, suggesting that some sort of arrangement might take place between co-operative and trade union organisations that would assist both movements to secure central headquarters on a single site.

The two papers by Mr. Hainsworth aroused much interest, and will have effect upon future propaganda in London.

The associations' work received important impetus from the success attending a joint conference of trade-unionists and co-operators, which was held under its auspices on 25th January, 1919. About 600 trade-unionists and 400 co-operative delegates attended, and thus created a record quite new to the annals of co-operative propaganda. The speakers representing co-operation were Mr. J. King (Stratford), Miss Llewelyn Davies (Women's Guild), and Mr. W. B. Neville (Woolwich); on the trade union side were Mr. C. W. Bowerman, M.P., Miss Mary R. MacArthur, and Mr. Duncan Carmichael (London Trades Council). Resolutions dealing with the extension of co-operative societies in London, representation on municipal bodies, and joint effort between co-operative societies and trade unions were carried unanimously. Since the conference, over 80 applications have been received for speakers to attend trade union branch meetings.

The following is the expenditure for the year:—

	£	s.	d.
Conferences	5	3	8
Executive Committee.....	30	9	7
Deputations	0	16	10
Printing	6	9	11
Postage	4	11	0

£47 11 0

B. WILLIAMS, Secretary.

No. 2.—SURREY.

Executive Committee.

Mr. S. Whitbourne (chairman), Woking.	Mr. W. Crockford, Haslemere.
„ Allen Bishop (secretary), Aldershot.	„ W. S. Martin, Gomshall.
„ F. L. Coombes, Guildford.	„ G. J. Pettett, Godalming.
„ C. A. Cook, Aldershot.	„ S. Whetstone, Addlestone.

Surrey as a district dissolved about ten years ago, but has again come into being. The initial executive meeting was held at Guildford, on Saturday, 7th September, 1918, when Mrs. M. A. Gasson attended and introduced "The possible enlargement of the district." This was taken up by the executive with the object of developing the idea. The spirit of good fellowship in which the district was initiated grows with each opportunity for fuller mutual service.

Three conferences have been held, as follows :—

Date.	Place.	Subject.	Introduced by
1918. 12th Oct. . .	Guildford	District and Society Organisation.	Mr. E. King (Oxford).
7th Dec. . .	Woking	A Review of the Trade Report of the Survey Committee.	Mr. S. Foulger (Ipswich).
1919. 8th Feb. . . .	Addlestone	Constitution of the Co-operative Union Ltd.	

All the conferences have been exceedingly well attended, and the debating has been of a first-class order. The executive has completed arrangements for absorbing the Surrey Conference Association, and this should prove of immediate benefit to co-operators generally. Endeavours are being made to get into closer touch with every management and educational committee, also women's guilds in the district. Wherever conferences have been held the local committees have extended a cordial reception to the executive, and it is anticipated that these visits will be productive of much good and enable us to keep in close touch with all that is taking place in the district. It is with deep regret we have to record the death of our esteemed friend and colleague, Mr. S. Whetstone (Addlestone), who passed away on 30th December, 1918.

Progress of a steady character can be generally reported, although in a few cases societies are feeling the stress of competition and adverse circumstances. Some societies have for some time past found it exceedingly difficult, with their reduced staff, to cope with the large increase of trade, but no effort has been spared by those who have been left behind to carry

on the work, and the results have been splendid. The executive realise that the time is ripe for spreading a knowledge of what co-operation means and has done for the people, and what more it could do if the public would rally round it. It is anticipated that a full-time organiser may be employed by the district, and possibly to be at the service of the societies in the district for propaganda work.

To all the societies who have entertained our conference meetings during our short existence we owe a debt of gratitude, as the hospitality extended to us has been of a very high standard, and has been much appreciated by those who have attended.

The expenses have been as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Executive Meetings.....	10	5	7½
Deputations	0	15	4
Printing and Stationery	1	9	6
	£12	10	5½

ALLEN BISHOP, Dist. Secretary.

No. 3.—KENT.

Executive Committee.

Mr. D. Flemming (chairman), Chatham.	Mr. J. H. Clunne, Gravesend.
„ M. H. Clear (secretary), Sheerness.	„ J. C. Harlow, Sittingbourne.
„ T. R. Claringbould, Dover.	„ J. T. Cashman, Faversham.
„ G. Wood, Sheerness Co-operative.	„ H. J. V. Wildash, Greenstreet.
„ T. Hoole, Canterbury.	„ J. Norris, Ramsgate.
„ W. Angear, Sheerness Economical.	„ H. Hughes, Rainham.
„ A. D. Banks, Ashford.	„ R. Werren, Tonbridge.
„ G. Mitchell, Maidstone.	„ A. J. Curling, J.P., Rochester.
„ H. Riches, Dartford.	„ Spillett, Walmer.
„ J. Gill, Gillingham.	

CONFERENCES.

Society.	Subject.	Introduced by
Ramsgate	Co-operators and the Sources of supply.	Mr. William Holt.
Gillingham	The Coming Era	Mr. B. Williams (Co-op. Union Ltd.)
Ashford	Banking and Insurance	Mr. T. G. Davies (C.W.S. Ltd.)
Faversham	Educational After-War Problems : How to Prepare for Them.	Mr. W. J. Foster.

The areas for conferences were restricted owing to the necessary war permits and passports to enter certain towns.

The conferences that have been held contained the elements needed for pushing forward a policy of development, but, nevertheless, deep regret was commonly expressed that the bulk of the membership were not imbued with the true spirit, nor equipped with the essential knowledge of the real objects and principles of the movement.

There has been a meeting of the Hours and Wages Board and a chairman and secretary appointed.

Several attempts have been made, through the medium of the executive of Ashford Society and by a meeting of its members, to induce them to open up a branch at Rye, instead of establishing a separate society. For over twelve months negotiations have been conducted, but these have ended in a deplorable failure. £600 capital was subscribed by a courageous little co-operative community in Rye, who were convinced that the day of small societies was past and that it was the best for all concerned to be a branch of an existing well-rooted society than to be a separate concern. Failing to induce Ashford to open up, they were approached by Hastings Society, and after full investigation, have agreed to become a branch of this society.

The town of Whitstable has, for years, been outside the co-operative fold, and no real attempt has ever been made to establish the movement on a distinct footing, and hopes were always turned towards two neighbouring societies that they would see their way clear to open up a branch. Faversham has now come forward and taken a lease of premises, and they intend to push business forward in this Kentish seaport.

Gillingham Society has followed other Kent societies by adding a small farm to its many enterprises.

The Barge Builders and Carrying Society has been wound up, the loan-holders paid out in full and the shareholders 15s. per £1 share.

The Sheerness Economical Industrial Provident Society Ltd. are celebrating their centenary during the coming year. Established in 1816, the war claims prevented any action being taken in 1916, but now local enthusiasm and active work has begun to fitly carry through a function unique in the movement. Jubilees are common, but a centenary will make history. It is the purpose of the local workers to use the centenary celebrations as an opportunity to promote amalgamation. The necessary machinery is at work, and to this end public meetings, socials, children's treats, local pages of the *Wheat-sheaf*, and articles in the local press, are all being used for preparing the ground.

A conference with labour and trade union friendly society forces has been held to help to create a thorough and complete understanding of the aims and objects of workers' organisations. Banking with the Co-operative Wholesale Society is catching on satisfactorily.

We regret that during the year Mr. A. J. Curling, J.P., president of

Rochester Society and member of the district executive, passed away after a brief illness. He was one of the pioneers of the Rochester Society, and for the past eight years its president, and for many years secretary of the Barge Builders and Carrying Society. He was a full-time official of the C.I.S., and a valuable member of the district committee. He lived a full life, and his demise is mourned by a large circle of friends.

The turn of the district congress representation falls to Ramsgate Society, which has appointed a delegate to Carlisle Congress.

SPECIAL DISTRICT FUND.

Receipts.			Expenditure.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
1917—To Balance brought forward ..	39	1 4	By Committee Meetings	6	8 6
1918— „ Subscriptions	39	15 2	„ Postages, Wires, &c.	3	2 6
„ „ Balance	6	15 4	„ Printing and Stationery	14	3 1
			„ Advisory Work	23	13 5
			„ Propaganda and Conferences....	38	9 4
Audited—					
W. R. ANGEAR.					
	£85	11 10		£85	11 10

MARK H. CLEAR, Hon. Secretary.

No. 4.—SUSSEX.

Executive Committee.

Mr. J. Serace (chairman), Tunbridge Wells.	Mr. W. Gatland, Crawley.
„ H. C. Kille (secretary), Eastbourne.	„ W. Dallaway, Brighton.
„ L. Razzell, Reigate.	„ E. Etherton, Newhaven.
„ G. Daughly, Arundel.	„ Robinson, Lewes.

The following conferences were held during the year:—

Society.	Subject.	Introduced by
Brighton	Co-operative Parliamentary Representation.	Mr. Hainsworth.
Seaford	Co-operation and National Politics ..	Mr. B. Williams.
Redhill	The War and Reconstruction.....	Miss Allen.
Hastings	The Survey Committee's Report (Constitution):	Mr. Charter.

The past year has been a difficult one for all societies, but despite the shortage of supplies the movement in Sussex has made good progress, all

societies recording an increase of membership and trade. Many societies found that the datum period set up by the Ministry of Food hit them rather badly for supplies for their members, and when registration took place many went elsewhere, but in spite of the endeavours of the multiple shops to keep our members, societies found them returning as equal goods were allotted to all.

The General Election which was rushed on the country in December last found some of our societies ready with candidates, viz. :—Brighton 2, Lewes 1, Eastbourne 1. These, with the co-operation of the Labour Party, were put forward as labour and co-operative candidates, but the powers of the plutocracy overwhelmed them at the polls.

The conferences have been well attended, and the subjects keenly discussed. The result has made co-operation more of a living force than before.

The accounts for the year are as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Conference Committee Meetings.....	16	11	11½
Conference—London	7	1	4
Printing and Stationery	2	4	2
Postage	0	19	7
	£26	17	0½

SPECIAL DISTRICT FUND.

Receipts.	£	s.	d.	Expenditure.	£	s.	d.
To Balance in hand	9	8	9	By Emergency Conference—London	1	10	0
				„ Expenses of Representation of Societies not represented on the District Committee	2	3	6
				„ Deputation to Brighton.....	0	9	0
				„ Balance forward	5	6	3
	£9	8	9		£9	8	9

H. C. KILLE, Hon. Secretary.

No. 5.—HANTS.

Executive Committee.

Mr. W. Hutchings (chairman), Winchester.
 „ J. L. Welch (hon. sec.), Portsmouth
 „ R. Hibberd, Parkstone.
 „ H. Sanders, Farnham.

Mr. E. H. Alexander, Southampton.
 „ A. Price, Shanklin.
 „ E. Ruddock, Eastleigh.
 „ W. H. Smart, Cowes.
 „ S. Bowerman, Portsmouth.

Conferences held during the year :—

Society.	Subject.	Introduced by
Andover	Representation on Public Bodies ...	Mrs. M. A. Gasson.
Portsmouth	Co-operative Development	Mr. J. H. Mihell.
Poole	Co-operation and National Politics..	Mr. B. Williams.
Farnham	"Who is to Pay for the War."	Mr. A. Hainsworth (Mr. Williams's Paper)
Southampton ...	Survey Committee's Report	Mr. R. Rowsell.
	"Pensions for Co-operative Society's Employees"	Mr. Musson.

The most notable feature in the work of the district for the past year is the frequent application from inhabitants of outlying villages for the development of the co-operative movement to their respective areas.

The chief difficulty of the members of the association is to restrain enthusiasts from attempting to set up new societies, and to induce old societies to venture to extend their borders in the required direction.

A previous report has mentioned the absorption of several small societies in the district by the larger ones, to the advantage of both, and this year we report the extinction of the small but thriving Petersfield Society, it having been taken over by the Portsea Island Mutual. Another gratifying fact is the almost general increase of share capital in all the societies, thus showing that, notwithstanding the great attraction of Government war certificates, co-operators realise that capital is needed for co-operative development.

Generally, notwithstanding the great difficulties caused by war conditions, the trade of all the societies in the district has increased splendidly, and with the abolition of the present restrictions we may safely anticipate a very great advance in trade and influence, and in the opportunities for shaping the economic conditions under which we live.

The expenditure for the year is as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Committee Meetings	29	6	0½
Deputations	12	10	6
Postage, Printing, and Stationery	5	3	4
	£46	19	10½

J. L. WELCH, Hon. Secretary.

No. 6.—WILTS. AND DORSET.

Executive Committee.

Mr. H. J. Poolman (chairman), Chippenham.	Mr. G. E. Moon, Devizes.
„ R. R. Prynne (hon. sec.), Wilton.	„ H. G. Norris, Bradford-on-Avon.
„ W. T. Dunning (treas.), Trowbridge.	„ John Scanes, Mere and District.
„ John Adlam, Salisbury.	„ S. W. Shinner (co-opted), Chippenham.
„ W. R. Jenkins, Weymouth.	

Conferences held during the year :—

Place.	Subject.	Introduced by
Trowbridge	Co-operative Representation, &c....	Mr. S. W. Shinner.
Calne	Annual Report	Mr. R. R. Prynne.
Weymouth	The Need for Increased Intellectual Efficiency in Co-operative Societies.	Mr. J. Scanes.
Wilton	Recommendations of the Survey Committee of the Co-operative Union.	Mr. H. J. Poolman.

The year 1918 has been a time of activity for our association in spite of the many restrictions due to the war. The conference at Trowbridge, 12th January, was reported on in our last report, but the results in stimulating co-operative organisation for securing representation on public bodies are apparent this year, its most concrete form being the West Wilts. Co-operative Representation Council, of which more will be heard in due course.

The annual meeting and conference was held at Calne on 30th March. Partly in consequence of a breakdown on the railway the attendance was small. The annual report was read by the secretary and a policy outlined by the association for the coming year.

The second conference for the year was held in the Town Hall, Warminster, 22nd June, and presided over by H. J. Poolman (president). Miss C. Webb, secretary of the Southern Convalescent Fund, gave an address based on the reports of the fund during 1916-17.

The conference at Weymouth, 21st September, was the venue of the reading of a weighty and original paper by Mr. J. Scanes (executive), "The Need for Increased Intellectual Efficiency in Co-operative Societies."

The final conference of the year was held at Wilton, 21st December, Mr. A. Rogers (president) in the chair. Mr. H. J. Poolman read Mr. Horrocks's paper "Recommendations of the Survey Committee." Some support was given to the idea of district representation upon the Central Board, it being pointed out that in the Southern Section the London societies

held such a preponderance of votes that their nominees were practically sure of election, while the best candidates outside the metropolitan area stood but a sorry chance.

The executive have held their usual number of meetings during the year, at places where their visit would help to bring or keep the local society in touch with the association. But here war-time restrictions have been most in evidence. The new society at Sturminster Newton was visited early in the year and invited to link up with the Union and association. We regret that the committee did not grasp their duty in this respect, and hope more enlightened counsels will prevail in the future. More success attended our interview with Weymouth committee, and at Childe Okeford, where the local committee seemed to know little of the union or the association, we were well received and feel sure that a favourable result will be recorded.

Meanwhile we have kept pegging away at the agricultural societies when opportunity offered, and not without success. We may say that our work has been that of strengthening our internal organisation, so that when the time comes for extension and reconstruction we shall not be found wanting.

The expenditure for the year is as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Conferences and Executive Meetings	46	9	1
Postages and Stationery	1	13	3
	<u>£48</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR 1918.

Receipts.	£	s.	d.	Expenditure.	£	s.	d.
To Balance in hand	23	13	10	By Delegates to Conferences—			
„ Subscriptions—				Trowbridge	8	7	7½
Devizes	4	13	8	Warminster	4	1	2½
Warminster	3	2	6	Weymouth	16	5	2
Wilton	1	4	2	„ Printing Accounts	7	15	9
Salisbury	8	6	8	„ Sundry Expenses	2	4	6
Amesbury	0	16	8	„ Balance in Bank	31	9	10
Bradford-on-Avon	4	3	0	„ Balance in hand	2	13	0
Trowbridge	1	0	0				
Chippenham	8	15	4				
Atworth	0	11	10				
Calne	2	3	9				
Mere	2	10	0				
Weymouth	5	4	2				
Corsham W.G.	0	10	6				
Chippenham W.G.	0	10	6				
„ Educ. Com.	0	10	6				
	<u>£67</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>1</u>				
					<u>£67</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>1</u>

R. R. PRYNNE, Hon. Secretary

No. 7.—OXFORD.

Executive Committee.

Mr. J. Reeves (chairman), Banbury.
 „ George Carter (hon. sec.), Oxford.
 „ D. Huckin, Chipping Norton.
 „ J. King, Maidenhead.

Mr. A. E. Perkins, Windsor.
 „ T. Ramsey, Oxford.
 „ C. E. Taylor, Swindon.
 „ H. Wooldridge, Reading.

The past year has been one of great difficulties for societies. The shortage and unequal distribution of foodstuffs has caused much anxiety amongst officials, whilst the withdrawal of the greater part and often the most efficient of societies' employees for military service, has rendered operations exceedingly difficult. The registration of customers with various shops has prevented a large increase in membership; still, many have joined the ranks, and the lessons learned relative to the treatment of co-operators by food control committees and the capitalist interests generally, will have effect by causing a great influx of membership in the near future.

The question of Parliamentary representation has been well to the fore throughout the district during the past year. Labour candidates at Reading and Swindon, although not entirely successful, had a fair measure of co-operative support. More enthusiasm, however, is needed amongst the rank and file in order to achieve our objects.

Mr. David Rose, J.P., for many years the respected manager of Reading Society, and a former member of the district committee, has retired from active service with the best wishes of all those with whom he was associated.

The abilities of Mr. H. J. Cooke, secretary and manager of Banbury Society, have been recognised by his appointment as Justice of the Peace.

A step in the right direction has been made by Swindon Society in the appointment of a full-time educational and propaganda secretary. Mr. Taylor, formerly president of the society, has accepted the position, and his enthusiasm in the work will doubtless strengthen and widen the society's operations.

Many of the societies are making plans for future extensions and the acquirement of land for farming operations. Differences have here and there arisen over labour demands for increased wages, but happily these have been adjusted to the satisfaction of those concerned.

Educational work has been somewhat restricted owing to lighting regulations and railway service, but hopes are entertained of greater efforts during 1919.

Four conferences have been held during the year with (considering travelling difficulties and the scattered district) fairly good attendances:—

Society.	Subject.	Introduced by
Reading	"Food Rationing"	Mr. B. Williams.
Swindon	"Co-operative Representation" (Mr. Stoddart's Paper).	Mr. R. Rowsell.
Banbury	"Parliamentary Representation" ..	Mr. H. J. Cooke.
Maidenhead	"The Coming Era"	Mr. B. Williams.

The expenditure for the year is as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Conferences	7	19	7
Committee Meetings	12	16	0
Printing	1	13	6
Postage and Stationery	0	15	6
	£23	4	7

SPECIAL DISTRICT FUND.

Receipts.	£	s.	d.	Expenditure.	£	s.	d.
To Balance, 31st December, 1917 ..	12	2	0	By Delegate to Conference	0	10	6
„ Interest	0	11	3	„ „ Congress	6	1	6
„ Subscriptions	12	19	0	„ Committee Meetings (fares)	8	16	0½
				„ Printing	0	5	0
				„ Postage and Stationery	0	10	7½
				„ Balance at Bank	10	8	3
				„ „ in Secretary's Hands	4	0	4
	£25	12	3		£25	12	3

GEORGE CARTER, Hon. Secretary.

No. 8.—CAMBRIDGE.

Executive Committee.

Mr. F. J. Simmons (chairman), Saffron Walden.	Mr. C. Martin, Bishop's Stortford.
„ W. Resbury (hon. sec.), Sawston.	„ G. B. Poppy, Newmarket.
„ F. Barnard, Cambridge.	„ B. Touch, Ely.
„ J. F. Cole, Letchworth.	„ J. Outram, Chatteris.

Conferences have been held during the year as under:—

Society.	Subject.	Introduced by
Chatteris	Farming by Distributive Societies	Mr. Hainsworth.
Letchworth	Co-operation and National Politics	Mr. Williams.
Hitchin	Survey Report	Mr. Hainsworth.

In addition to the conferences reported above, the committee has met for special business twice during the year at different places, usually meeting the local committee at the same time. The Bishop's Stortford Society has now been taken over by the Cambridge Society, and as a result the membership and trade is increasing.

It is with regret we have to report the death of Mr. Joseph Outram (Chatteris). He was a very useful and thoughtful member of our district committee.

The condition of all societies in this district is good and prosperous. The four and a-half years of war has left them stronger and more stable.

The expenditure for the year is as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Committee Meetings	20	7	8
London Conferences.....	4	5	6
Special Conferences	3	1	4
Printing and Stationery	0	12	0
Postage	0	13	0
	£28	19	6

STATEMENT OF SPECIAL DISTRICT FUND.

Receipts.			Expenditure.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Balance brought forward	26	19 7	By Special Deputations	2	6 0
„ Subscriptions.....	11	6 0	„ Delegate to Congress....	5	0 0
„ Dividend and Interest (Bank)....	1	6 10	„ Hire of Room	0	3 6
			„ *Delegates attending Classes in London	9	0 0
			„ Postage	0	1 0
			„ Balance at Bank	22	14 11
			„ „ in Secretary's hands....	0	7 0
	£39	12 5		£39	12 5

* This includes compensation for an unfortunate loss, and was generously voted by the committee.

WILLIAM RESBURY, Hon. Secretary.

No. 9.—NORFOLK.

Executive Committee.

Mr. A. J. Hagg (chairman), Norwich.	Mr. J. Page, Sheringham.
„ T. S. Reeve (hon. sec.), Norwich.	„ P. W. Rayment, Lowestoft.
„ J. E. Coston, King's Lynn.	„ W. Speare, Beccles.
„ G. Mayes, Wymondham.	„ W. Willett, Brandon.
„ F. J. Newman, Great Yarmouth.	„ R. J. Woods, Diss.
„ E. T. Offord, Swaffham.	„ H. J. Yates, Fakenham.

During the year the co-operative spirit has been kept alive and a good feeling has been manifested throughout the district. Except in the cases of two societies that decided at an early period of the war not to be represented while the war was on, all have been represented at the conferences during the year as railway facilities permitted. Changes of management have taken place in three societies. Mr. J. A. Hewitt, of Lowestoft, has been called to higher service in the movement as manager of the new fish department of the Co-operative Wholesale Society. Mr. Bailey left Wymondham to fill the vacancy at Lowestoft. Mr. Reeve left Cromer for Wymondham, and Cromer Society has selected one of its previous employees to be manager.

Somelarge increases in trade have been made by the more daring societies. A noteworthy feature is the genuine attempt to abolish credit. King's Lynn Society has opened bread shops, which have so far justified the judgment

of the management, that others are to be opened as soon as premises become available. Where penny banks have been opened satisfactory results are reported.

Direct Representation.—A closer working between trade unions and co-operative societies is the result of the campaign in this direction, but King's Lynn was the only society that set up a Co-operative Parliamentary Council, the initial success of which is the appointment of Mr. J. E. Coston as a Justice of the Peace. A candidate is also selected to contest a vacancy on the Borough Council. The district secretary attended joint meetings of trade-unionists and co-operators at Great Yarmouth and Wymondham.

The Lowestoft, Great Yarmouth, and Norwich societies have in prospect considerable extensions of properties.

Melton Constable is still progressing and carrying propaganda to the surrounding villages.

A group meeting of societies has been held between Cromer, Sheringham, Fakenham, and Melton Constable, to consider uniformity of dividend and inter-trading.

Capital Appeals.—Each society has pushed the claim for increased capital for productive developments.

The following conferences have taken place :—

Date.	Place.	Subject.	Introduced by
1918. April 27 ..	King's Lynn ...	Insurance and Banking	Mr. T. G. Davies.
Sept. 14 ..	Great Yarmouth	Trade Report of the Survey Committee.	Mr. R. Rowsell.
1919. Jan. 25...	Melton Constable	The Constitution of the Co-operative Union.	Mr. W. J. Salmon

The result of the King's Lynn conference is that a large number of societies have adopted the Collective Life Insurance scheme.

The expenditure for the year is as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Sectional Conferences	11	11	5
Executive Expenses	12	0	6
Special Deputation	0	5	2
Circulars, &c.	3	5	6
Printing and Stationery	0	14	8
Postages	1	10	9
	£29	8	0

SPECIAL DISTRICT FUND.

Receipts.			Expenditure.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Balance brought forward	17	14 4	By Cost of Tea at Wymondham	1	2 0
„ Subscriptions	1	11 0	„ Fares, Expenses, and Fees	2	8 10
„ Interest	0	14 0	„ Balance, 10th Feb., 1919	16	8 6
	£19	19 4		£19	19 4

THOS. S. REEVE, Hon. Secretary.

No. 10.—ESSEX AND SUFFOLK.

Executive Committee.

Mr. B. S. Wood (chairman), Braintree.	Mr. S. Foulger, Ipswich.
„ W. J. Salmon (hon. sec.), Colchester.	„ G. Ryder, Colchester.
„ Chas. Clift, Chelmsford.	„ S. G. Tydeman, Maldon.
„ F. Davey, Halstead.	„ W. Wade, Stowmarket.

The difficulty of obtaining halls, caused by military occupation, has reduced the number of conferences generally held to two, viz. :—

Society.	Subject.	Introduced by
Chelmsford .	Co-operative Societies and Their Source of Supply.	Mr. H. Read, Ipswich
Halstead ...	Co-operation and Political Action	Mr. B. Williams.

Both of these meetings were well attended, considerable interest being aroused and vigorous discussions provoked.

The general progress of all societies has been well maintained, in spite of shortage of supplies and staff difficulties, and we are looking forward to increased membership and trade as the country resumes its normal conditions and efficient trained staffs again become available. Plans for new developments and branches are well in hand for a forward move.

The expenditure for the year is as follows :—

	£	s. d.
Conferences and Executive Meetings	15	13 7
Printing and Stationery	0	18 0
Postage	0	17 2
	£17	8 9

DISTRICT FUND.

Receipts			Expenditure.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Balance brought forward	8	13 6	By Delegations and Deputations....	6	18 0
„ Subscriptions	5	5 0	„ Postage, &c.	0	5 9
	£13	18 6	„ Balance forward	6	14 9
				£13	18 6

W. J. SALMON, Hon. Secretary.

No. 11.—BEDS. AND BUCKS.

Executive Committee.

Mr. W. H. Barton (chairman), Luton.	Mr. W. H. Bond, St. Albans.
„ C. T. Goldsmith (hon. secretary), Bedford.	„ A. Crouch, Olney.
„ J. Bagnall, Tring.	„ D. A. Jones, Bedford.
„ P. Brightman, Silsoe.	„ J. H. Goodwin, Bletchley.
„ H. Dolling, Wolverton.	„ M. Smith, Hemel Hempstead.
„ W. G. Payne, Chesham.	„ — Stratfull, Leighton Buzzard.
„ W. Taylor, Stony Stratford.	„ W. M. Whitehead, Berkhamsted.
„ T. Walker, Aylesbury.	„ W. H. Wood, Newport Pagnell.

With the exception of the General Election, there has been nothing this year to bring out the fighting spirit of our societies as in the two previous years, when we were faced with the Income Tax menace, and the ignoring of so many of our societies' claims to representation upon food control committees. The district and the societies, however, have not been idle. Further attempts were made, some with better success, to obtain direct representation upon food control committees. In several constituencies our societies actively and openly identified themselves with the Labour cause during the election. The special groups of societies formed in each constituency to combat the Income Tax menace, their work done, have been disbanded, and their functions merged into the work of the direct representation electoral councils, which during the election did splendid service in keeping candidates aware of our existence and of our side of the Income Tax question.

Food control regulations have vetoed extensions of spheres of influence, but there are indications that our societies are alive to their opportunities as soon as this veto is removed. There is ample scope for extensions. Meanwhile we have concentrated upon intensive culture—the education of our present membership and the improvement of our educational machinery. On 23rd March, we held our first annual conference specially for education committees, when Miss Herbert (Hemel Hempstead), Mr. Fox (Luton), and Mr. Kilby (Wolverton), culled from the experience of their respective committees hints upon the most successful phases of their work. At the second of the series, Miss J. P. Madams gave us an inspiring address, which served as a splendid tonic. The success of this series has encouraged the executive to arrange a similar series specially for management committees.

The position in regard to food supplies became so grave early in the year that the district executive asked the directors of the Co-operative Wholesale Society to take immediate steps with the Food Controller so as to ensure an equitable distribution of available supplies.

One of our smaller societies got into troublous waters early in the year. Under the supervision of the Co-operative Wholesale Society it has pulled itself together again.

The conferences for the year have been :—

Society.	Subject.	Introduced by
Aylesbury	Conscription of Wealth	Mr. B. Williams.
Wolverton	Hints from Experience for Educational Workers.	Miss Herbert, Mr. Fox, and Mr. Kilby.
Berkhamsted....	Educational Reconstruction.....	Mr. Whitehead.
Tring	Mr. Horrocks's Paper: "Recommendations of the Survey Committee regarding the Constitution of the Co-op. Union Ltd."	Mr. Rowsell.
Luton	The Work of an Educational Committee: Its Purposes, Perplexities, and Possibilities.	Miss J. P. Madams.

Despite restricted train services and a scattered district, the attendances at the conferences have been admirably maintained.

The expenditure for the year has been—

	£	s.	d.
Committee Meetings and Conferences	21	13	7½
Deputations	0	6	0
Printing	1	7	6
Postage, &c.	1	12	11
	£25	0	0½

SPECIAL DISTRICT FUND.

Receipts.	£	s.	d.	Expenditure.	£	s.	d.
To Balance in hand, 1st Jan., 1918..	16	0	7½	By Committee Meetings	4	8	2
„ Subscriptions.....	8	11	6	„ Congress Delegate's Expenses ..	4	10	0
„ Donations from Birkhamsted				„ Committee's Education Confer-			
Group for Income Tax Menace				ence (speaker's expenses).....	0	8	6
Propaganda	1	12	6	„ Printing Syllabus.....	0	12	3
				„ Postage.....	0	1	9
				„ Clerical assistance	0	7	6
				„ Balance in hand, 1st Jan., 1919 ..	15	16	5½
	£26	4	7½		£26	4	7½

CHAS. T. GOLDSMITH, Hon. Secretary.

SOUTHERN CO-OPERATIVE EDUCATION ASSOCIATION.

Executive Council.

Mr. W. J. Salmon (president), Central Board.	Mr. R. Hibberd, Parkstone and Bournemouth.
Mr. W. J. Foster, Co-operative Bass Dressers.	Miss J. P. Madams, Co-operative Brotherhood Trust.
Mr. B. Williams, Southern Sectional Board.	Mr. F. G. Saunders, Royal Arsenal.
Miss E. E. M. Allen, Reigate.	„ W. J. Simmonds, Edmonton.
„ J. J. Dent, Working Men's College.	„ W. J. Sunman, Bromley and Crays.
Miss E. M. Herbert, Hemel Hempstead.	Mrs. A. J. Vigis, Stratford.
	Miss C. Webb, Wimbledon.
	Mr. J. Williams, Swindon.

EDUCATIONAL RECONSTRUCTION—THE EDUCATION ACT, 1918.

Recognising that no schemes of national reconstruction can be effectual which do not begin with the child, the Council, when drawing up their programme, decided to devote the whole of the conferences of the year (a) to ensure the passing of the Bill, (b) to making the provision of the Act widely known, and impressing upon educational committees the great importance of clauses being put into operation.

CONFERENCES.

Date.	Subject.	Introduced by
1918. June 29....	Educational Reconstruction	Miss J. P. Madams.
October 29.	Co-operators and National Education.	Canon J. H. B. Masterman, M.A.
1919. February 12	The Education Act and the Training of Co-operative Employees.	W. J. Foster.
March 29 ..	The Education Act: Its Working	R. H. Tawney, M.A.

Conferences have also been held in conjunction with the Kent District at Faversham, Swindon, and Dartford.

In addition, a pamphlet explaining the Educational Act, issued by the Council, has been widely circulated. The conferences have been extremely well attended, and a greater interest aroused in the subject, and more definite results attained than is usual.

At Swindon, Dartford, and Portsmouth, town meetings have been convened and representative committees appointed to submit schemes to local education committees, watch the work of these bodies, examine their

proposals, and generally hold a watching brief, with power to call further meetings when necessary.

EASTER WEEK-END.

The central educational committees having found it impossible to organise a general Easter Week-end, suggested that sectional education associations should arrange for one to be held in each section. The Brighton Society readily agreed to the suggestion that the Southern Sectional Easter Week-end should be held in their town, and arrangements have been made for a gathering to be held April 17th-21st and a most comprehensive and interesting programme has been arranged.

CLASS WORK.

The following classes have been held during the past session :—

1917-8.				1918-9.			
	Classes.		Students.		Classes.		Students.
Junior	26	....	87	....	29	....	1,255
Intermediate	1	....	20	....	2	....	96
Adult Co-operators ..	7	....	108	....	20	....	229
Industrial History ...	5	....	74	....	3	....	42
Citizenship	2	....	28	....	4	....	29
Economics .....	..	....	..	....	1	....	12
Book-keeping	4	....	56	....	5	....	105
	—		—		—		—
	45		373		64		1,768

Classes for women have been held by nine societies.

A new departure in class work has been made, a class for speakers having been arranged by the Metropolitan Districts.

This class, which was held at the Working Men's College, was well attended, and the results were extremely satisfactory.

(7) SOUTH-WESTERN SECTION.

	Present.		Absent.		Possible.
Mr. W. Brown.....	11	....	—	....	11
Mr. J. T. Davis	8	....	3*	....	11
Mrs. Found	10	....	1*	....	11
Mr. R. Pearce	11	....	—	....	11
Rev. G. A. Ramsay.....	10	....	1	....	11
Mr. W. H. Watkins	10	....	1†	....	11

* Sick. † Other Co-operative Business.

Officers and representatives elected at the first meeting of the Board—

Chairman : Mr. W. H. Watkins. *Treasurer* : Mr. W. Brown.

Secretary : Mr. R. Pearce.

Representatives to the—

United Board Mr. W. H. Watkins.

Parliamentary Representation Committee Mrs. Found.

Central Education Committee Rev. G. A. Ramsay.

Bristol and Somerset District Association Mrs. Found.

Cornwall District Association Mr. J. T. Davis.

Devon District Association Mr. W. Brown.

Notwithstanding the continued war strain for the greater part of the Congress year the progress of co-operation in the South-Western Section has been generally maintained, whilst membership and trade have increased. In addition to this, a desire to learn something of the movement has been expressed in such remote districts as the Lizard in the south of Cornwall and Bude in the far north of the same county. It may be hoped, therefore, that in the near future no area in the section will be outside the sphere of co-operative influence.

Coming to individual societies, Exeter has quite recently taken over the largest dairy business in that city and opened a new branch at Crediton. Plymouth Society has throughout the year been following the course adopted in previous years of developing its business and branches wherever opportunities have presented themselves. Bristol Society has secured large central premises, and is awaiting the time when business may be opened in them. Three farms have been taken over by the society at Radstock, and a fish department has also been opened by the same society. Smaller societies are contemplating additions when the times and circumstances become such as to enable them to be made in safety. In North Devon, in the Barnstaple district, co-operative interest and enthusiasm have again been shown, and

Ilfracombe Society has entered into new and commodious premises, while the Delabole Society has secured a site for a branch at Camelford and is negotiating for land on which to erect a new bakery.

In connection with Parliamentary representation, well-attended Two-days Schools have been held at Bristol and Plymouth, and successful One-day Schools at Bristol and Penzance. A considerable amount of propaganda and educational work has been carried on throughout the section, but the work of the Devon district organiser has been interrupted by war circumstances. His labours, however, are now being resumed under the direction of the Devon district executive, and a desire has been expressed that he should at an early date spend a month in Cornwall, especially in the Truro and Helstone districts.

It has recently been brought to the notice of the Board that there is in existence in the section a Bakers' Co-operative Federation operating in the South-Western and two adjoining sections, and it is hoped that the organisation may be brought more closely in connection with the Union.

In respect to the relation of agricultural organisation societies and those affiliated with the Union, it is not learnt that any new agricultural societies have been formed during the year, but in North Somerset some little uneasiness is experienced on account of the competition of a near Farmers' Association with retail societies. The combination of societies in the Bath area for the purpose of securing land and establishing piggeries is to be commended, while those societies in Devon which have acquired land and those endeavouring to acquire land are to be congratulated on their efforts.

At sectional and district conferences the Survey Committee's Report on Constitution and Trade has been dealt with, and interesting and intelligent discussions have been the result.

One meeting of the Hours and Wages Board has been held during the year, when a question of bonus award to transport workers was discussed, but it was agreed that the matter was one which was outside the Board's jurisdiction.

No co-operative candidate was adopted in any constituency in the section at the late general election, but co-operators in more than one Parliamentary division gave unqualified assistance to the Labour Party where Labour candidates ran. In several constituencies joint Labour and Co-operative councils have been formed, and these are showing increasing interest in endeavouring to secure mutual democratic representation on local governing bodies.

The question of amalgamation of societies has, on account of war conditions, received less consideration during the past year than in the previous one, but that of boundaries mentioned in last year's report, and referred to in Congress, has been considered. No practical progress, however, has been made.

The Board welcomes the fact that the 1920 Congress will be held in the South-Western Section.

With the return of more normal conditions of transport and greater ease

in procuring commodities, the educational and propaganda work that has been carried on during the year should result in great advancement being made in the South-Western Section in the coming twelve months.

W. H. WATKINS, Chairman.
ROBT. PEARCE, Secretary.

REPORTS OF THE DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS.

No. 1.—BRISTOL AND SOMERSET.

Sub-executive Committee:

Messrs. J. Marks (president), A. V. Treasure (treasurer),
F. G. Gillingham (secretary), Mrs. K. Burman, R. G. Naish,
J. Bryant, A. Hill, and A. H. J. Stroud.

Sectional Board Representative: Mrs. Found.

Representative on S.W.E.A.: Mr. F. Gould.

On behalf of the executive committee we have pleasure in presenting the report and statement of accounts for the year ended 31st December, 1918.

From the statistics of the district it will be seen that progress has been made. With the many difficulties of getting supplies, Government restrictions, and control borne in mind, we refrain from comment, but would urge that every effort be put forward as the control and markets become easier to get co-operation established more firmly than ever in the county.

	Members.	Capital. £	Profits. £	Sales. £	Reserves. £	Education. £
1917....	58,344 ..	494,260 ..	130,310 ..	1,528,655 ..	37,626 ..	1,259
1916....	51,610 ..	429,210 ..	113,797 ..	1,177,464 ..	32,139 ..	1,164
Increase	6,734	65,050	16,513	351,191	5,487	95

We have held four conferences during the year as follows:—

Date.	Held at	Subject Discussed.	Introduced by
1918.			
12th January ..	Bristol.....	Annual Report, &c. "Special Report of National Emergency Conference."	Secretary. Mr. Westbury.
13th April.	Frome.....	"Scheme for Co-operative Parliamentary Representation."	Mr. W. Harris.
18th July	Taunton	"Co-operation and the Future."	Rev. G. S. Woods.
12th October ..	Bristol.....	"A Review of the Trade Report of the Survey Committee."	Professor F. Hall.

The first conference, at Bristol, dealt with the annual business of report and balance sheet and the election of officers. The retiring members, Messrs. Westbury and Connolly, were thanked for their services as chairman and secretary for many years past. Mr. Westbury gave an interesting report of the National Emergency Conference held in London, which was accepted with the heartiest thanks of the meeting.

The Frome conference gave no uncertain sound to its views on the

question of Parliamentary representation, urging an alliance between the movement and the Labour Party for Parliamentary purposes. The speaker, Mr. W. Harris, very ably dealt with the subject.

The Taunton conference was well attended, when the subject of "Co-operation and the Future" was introduced by the Rev. G. S. Woods. The train service, however, so greatly affected the attendance that the meeting requested Mr. Woods to write his paper for circulation, which he agreed to do.

The Bristol conference was held under the united auspices of the association and the Bristol Central Educational Committee, which proved a very happy and helpful combination. The subject discussed was very lucidly introduced by Prof. F. Hall, and the discussion was most educative and helpful. The subject of the Survey Committee's Report also proved a theme for abundant comment.

The sub-executive have been kept busy with the matters referred to them bearing upon such questions as "Local Councils," "Propaganda," "Parliamentary Advisory Council," "The Creation of Magistrates within the District," and "Affiliation of Societies who are not Members of the Association." Having mentioned such we must forbear comment here through lack of space, except to state that the report of the Parliamentary Advisory Council showed conclusively that in their opinion—

- (1) Co-operative societies are not yet strong enough to successfully run co-operative candidates in this district.
- (2) The rules of our constitution would not at present allow of our fusion with political forces.
- (3) The Union funds could not be used in assisting Labour candidates who are with us in our co-operative policy and ideals.

These matters are still being dealt with, and suggestions will be laid before the next Congress with proposals for amendment. On the question of magistrates being appointed from co-operative candidates, the societies have sent forward many nominations, which are being followed up by the association. We must all do our utmost to secure success in this very important direction.

Propaganda work has been carried through with difficulty from train service and other causes. Reports, however, are very encouraging from many societies.

In concluding our report we tender our warmest thanks to all the societies that have entertained conferences and delegates at the various meetings during the year. May we remind societies that we are out to serve the great cause of co-operation by every means in our power, and we welcome inquiries on any matter in which we can assist.

The early new year demands attention to the claims of co-operation being put forward at the forthcoming municipal, urban, rural, and parish council elections. Let us be determined to rise to the occasion, for we must fill our position on the controlling bodies of this country more in the future than we have done in the past.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1918 :—

Receipts.	£	s.	d.	Expenditure.	£	s.	d.
To Balance brought forward	85	17	3½	By Conferences—			
„ Subscriptions from Societies	128	0	6	Bristol	18	1	4½
„ Educational Committees	5	5	0	Frome	24	19	4½
„ Bristol Men's Guild	0	15	0	Taunton	25	15	4
„ Women's Guilds	0	15	0	Bristol	17	16	5½
„ Trade Dividend	0	4	0	„ Delegations—			
„ Co-operative Union	34	11	0	Frampton (2)	0	12	3
„ Bank Interest and Dividend	1	11	9	Taunton	1	16	6
				Bridgwater	0	19	3
				Stoke	0	3	9
				Twerton	0	6	0
					3	17	9
				„ Delegate to Congress	8	5	0
				„ Special Meetings Parliamentary			
				Advisory Committee	6	12	5½
				„ S.W.E.A. Expenses	3	7	1
				„ S.W.E.A. Subscription (2 years) ..	2	2	0
				„ Secretary's Remuneration	5	0	0
				„ Treasurer's	2	0	0
				„ Printing, Posting, and Carriage ..	11	7	10
				„ Cost of Audit	1	11	11
				„ Sub-executive Expenses	34	11	0
				„ Cash in Bank	60	1	9
				„ Cash in hand and Cheques not			
				passed through bank	30	12	11½
				„ Hire of Hall, Weston-super-Mare ..	0	15	0
				„ Bank Commission	0	2	3
					£256	19	6½

Audited—
C. POWELL.
W. HILLMAN.

F. G. GILLINGHAM, Secretary.

No. 2.—DEVON.

Executive Committee.

Mr. E. R. S. Mundy (chairman), Exeter.	Mr. A. Johns, Paignton.
„ E. Truscott (secretary), Plymouth.	„ J. Marks, Plymouth.
„ H. S. Glanfield (treasurer), Newton	„ J. M. Metherell, J.P., Bideford.
Abbot.	„ W. E. Saunders, J.P., South Molton.
„ M. Hoare, Buckfastleigh.	„ F. E. Willis, Torquay.

Sectional Board Representative : Mr. W. Brown.

Representative of the South-Western Educational Association :

Mr. F. E. Willis.

The year has been one of considerable success, and in every sphere of the movement evidences of progress can be seen.

The position of the movement in this district at the last available dates is as follows :—

Retail Distributive Societies.	Members.	Sales.	Share Capital.	Reserves.	Productive Societies.
31	84,219	£2,057,690	£790,180	£134,951	1

Four conferences have been held during the year as follows :—

Date.	Where held.	Subject Discussed.	Introduced by
1918.			
16th March	Paignton	Annual Report	District Secretary.
15th June	Torquay	"The Place of Industrial Co-operation in Agriculture."	Mr. E. Jackson.
28th September.	Tavistock	"Co-operative Political Organisation"	Mr. E. R. S. Mundy.
7th December ..	Plymouth	Survey Committee's Report	Mr. W. H. Watkins.

The attendances at the quarterly conferences have been very encouraging and the subjects discussed of a very practical and far-reaching character. The discussion of the annual report at Paignton on 16th March, 1918, confirmed the action of the committee in appointing a full-time organiser for the county, and many expressions of appreciation of the good work accomplished were voiced at the meeting. It was also resolved to forward a resolution to the committee for the furtherance of a University scheme, supporting the idea for the establishment of a University for the South-West of England.

At Torquay, on 15th June, 1918, Mr. E. Jackson (of the Agricultural Department of the Co-operative Wholesale Society) gave a very valuable paper on "The Place of Industrial Co-operation in Agriculture." This meeting was very well attended and the questions most up to date. It was found that several societies in the county had many useful schemes in hand, and that not a few were quite ready to go forward in this department as soon as the conditions changed and opportunities presented themselves. We are pleased to announce that the Torquay Society has decided to invite Congress to that town at Whitsuntide, 1920. The offer will be made at this year's Congress at Carlisle, and we trust that in the interests of co-operation in Devon it will receive effective support.

At Tavistock, on 28th September, 1918, Mr. E. R. S. Mundy presented a very valuable paper on "Co-operative Political Organisation," and gave many good suggestions as to the future programme and policy of co-operators in this most important matter.

In connection with the Sectional Board the concluding conference of the year was held at Plymouth on 7th December, 1918, when Mr. W. H. Watkins gave a very lucid exposition of the Survey Committee's Report. It was found that many delegates welcomed the information given, and felt that a change in the methods of the Union was necessary to meet the pressing and important changes taking place.

DIRECT PARLIAMENTARY REPRESENTATION.

This question has been before the committee on several occasions and definite steps taken to organise the progressive forces in every constituency. At Plymouth, Exeter, Torquay and Totnes Divisions strong and vigorous associations are at work to watch the interest of the movement and link together the workers in the true interest of democracy. In the North Devon area joint meetings of the committee and representatives of every society

affected took place at Exeter during the year. Committees are now at work in both the Barnstaple and South Molton Divisions, and we can confidently rely on action being taken at any time circumstances demand.

During the year the committee have rendered valuable assistance to many societies by giving addresses at public meetings, quarterly meetings of societies, women's guilds, and other gatherings.

The request for information with reference to additions and extensions has not resulted in the ready response your committee would desire. We note, however, that the progress made during the year has been of an encouraging character, most notable extensions and additions taking place at Plymouth, Exeter, Paignton, Newton Abbot, Buckfastleigh, and many other places. A carefully prepared and concise account of the general progress made during the year would give the most dubious every reason for encouragement.

A consideration of the Organiser's Report will convince the most sceptical of the desirability of having a full-time agent at work in the county. Many parts are at present in need of vigorous propaganda effort to arouse the workers to the necessity of having a society in every town and hamlet in the county. Many questions raised in the report have received careful consideration by the committee, and we are most anxious that every assistance should be forthcoming to make Devon a co-operative county.

ORGANISER'S REPORT.

Propaganda during the past year did not cover quite six months altogether, the work being entirely suspended between the 22nd April and the 27th September owing to the war.

Fifty-nine meetings were attended between the 6th January and the 27th March, an average of five per week.

A general improvement in attendance at societies' business meetings was again noted, and the seven purely co-operative public meetings were well attended and enthusiastic.

PARLIAMENTARY REPRESENTATION.

A special feature of the work done in the Torbay area was the series of eight public meetings held during January in support of co-operative representation. These meetings were distinctly encouraging; the halls were well filled on every occasion, and good newspaper reports were obtained. A suitable resolution was submitted and adopted at each meeting.

CANVASSING.

Whilst this sort of work would seem to be the chief need of societies at all times, during the difficult period of close registration, with its tight restrictions upon the freedom of purchasers, it has not been found practicable to canvass strongly for new members. It has been possible, however, to sow good seed in the shape of attractive literature and a friendly exchange of views, with a few words of encouragement to registered customers who felt, mistakenly perhaps, that they had been badly used in the matter of supplies. Literature has been consistently sold, free literature distributed, and a printed

invitation to a public meeting given. With regard to the invitations to the meetings, the response might have been a bit more encouraging. In this connection, it is said that 2 per cent is about the average return on bill distribution. Our experience tends to confirm the statement.

CO-OPERATIVE GUILDS.

A new branch of the women's guild was inaugurated at Kingswear on the 12th March, with a membership of 25. Many societies in the county are still without this desirable form of activity for members, and several have been advised to try to establish a guild composed of both men and women, a form which has met with undoubted success in places where either sex is too weak or unwilling to act without the other.

EDUCATIONAL.

During the past year further experience has been gained with regard to the needs and limitations of societies. In one case, for instance, the educational committee has the right material for educational work, but lacks a good secretary and meeting-room facilities. Frequently, too, there is misconception with regard to the manipulation of the educational fund. Obviously, the educational grant is not, and never was intended to be, a reserve fund. The money should be invested in education. With regard to the organisation of educational forces, no systematic attempt seems to be made to keep in line with the facilities provided by Holyoake House. In not a few instances, useful activities have been allowed to lapse—generally through the loss of the person chiefly responsible. Several societies have been strongly advised to start children's work. Where suitable rooms on societies' own premises are available, educational work should not be neglected. In these cases the employment of a suitable teacher to undertake work among the children is essential.

ORGANISED LABOUR.

As the outcome of an informal meeting held at Paignton on the 13th February, arranged by the organiser, and attended by representatives of the local branches of the various trade unions, a Trades and Labour Council was formed, and a constitution adopted on the 27th February. The most friendly relations have been set up with the other trades and labour councils in the division, as well as with the various trade union branches. Several of the trade union meetings at which the organiser was given the opportunity to speak were largely attended, and no doubt helped to cement the close relationship now established between the co-operative and trade union movements.

GENERAL.

One of the most dangerous weaknesses apparent is that several societies have a tendency to become increasingly insular. This should be recognised, not only as a mistake but as a danger. In so far as a society fails to take every opportunity of keeping in closest touch with the larger movement, by sending delegates to all conferences and business meetings, contributing as

far as possible to all national co-operative funds, and generally identifying itself with the movement as a whole, to that extent that society loses the power to shape its course and keep in line with the best co-operative thought and development.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1918:—

Receipts.	£	s.	d.
To Balance in hand and bank.....	46	4	11
" Co-operative Union.....	144	9	8
" Subscriptions from Societies	325	8	8
" Loan of Organiser, Torquay Par- liamentary Election.....		7	10
" Bank Interest and Dividend	2	7	6
Auditor— C. W. UGLOW.			
	<u>£525</u>	15	9

Expenditure.	£	s.	d.
By Conferences at—			
Paignton	22	13	0
Torquay	23	16	11
Tavistock	32	0	6
Plymouth	25	3	4
" Committee Meetings	66	17	3
" Propaganda	32	17	4
" Grants to—			
Cornwall Conference Assoc. .	5	0	0
S.-W. Educational Association	2	2	0
Women's Guild (Dis. Assoc.)..	6	6	0
Secretary	7	7	0
Treasurer	4	4	0
" Direct Parliamentary Represen- tation (Northern Area).....	5	19	2
" Organiser's Salary ..	85	18	11
" Organiser's Railway Fares and Sundries.....	16	15	4
" Organiser's Services, Torquay Election ..	7	10	0
" Stationery and Printing	21	0	2
" Postages	5	3	4
" Bank Commission	0	6	1
" Co-operative Insurance	1	16	0
" Congress Delegates	7	10	0
" Cash in Hand, 31st December, 1918	11	2	6
" Cash in Bank	134	6	11
	<u>£525</u>	15	9

E. TRUSCOTT, Secretary.

No. 3.—CORNWALL.

Executive Committee.

Mr. A. E. Trenwith (chairman), Pen- zance.	Mr. A. Davey (treasurer), Pensilva.
„ W. J. Jose (vice-chairman), Lost- withiel.	„ J. Laundry, Menheniot.
„ J. R. Toms (secretary), Liskeard.	„ W. J. Lapthorn, Plymouth.
	„ W. Wilkinson, St. Austell.
	„ R. Pearce, Delabole.

Representative of the Sectional Board: Mr. J. T. Davis.

Four conferences of the association have been held during the year, and these have been well attended.

The first conference was held at Saltash, on 20th March, 1918, and this being the annual meeting, the president (Mr. Trenwith) took the chair. Mr. Lander (president of the local society) tendered a hearty welcome to the delegates, and gave a brief *résumé* of the rise and growth of the Saltash Society. The annual report to Congress was presented by the Secretary, and an interesting discussion followed, dealing at length with the questions of

political action, amalgamation, and education. It was generally agreed that the executive were pursuing the right course. There were eleven nominations for the executive, and the scrutineers declared the following to be re-elected:—Messrs. A. Davey (Pensilva), W. J. Jose (Lostwithiel), W. J. Laphthorn (Plymouth), J. Laundry (Menheniot), R. Pearce (Delabole), J. R. Toms (Liskeard), A. E. Trenwith (Penzance), and W. Wilkinson (St. Austell).

The second conference was held at St. Austell, on 8th June. Mr. Thompson, on behalf of the local society, welcomed the delegates. Mr. Wilkinson (District Executive) read a paper on "Co-operation and Trade-unionism," which elicited a good discussion. It was generally agreed that the time was now opportune to weld together the various organisations for the purpose of securing representation on all governing bodies. Mr. Wilkinson emphasised the need of closer relationship between co-operative societies and trade unions.

The third conference was held at Truro, on 12th September. Mr. Stratford (president of the local society) took the chair. Part of the Survey Committee's Report, regarding the constitution of the Co-operative Union, was introduced by Mr. R. Pearce (South-Western Sectional Board), who dealt with the question in an able manner. Much interest was taken in the various recommendations and practical suggestions made in the report. It was felt that these questions would have to be more fully discussed on some future occasion.

The fourth conference was held at Plymouth, jointly with the Devon District Association and the South-Western Sectional Board. Mr. Mundy (chairman, Devon District Association) took the chair. Mr. W. H. Watkins (chairman, South-Western Sectional Board) introduced the Survey Committee's Report (Constitutional Section), and a good discussion followed.

The executive have held ten meetings during the year, and much routine work has been done.

Having received instructions from the conference held at Liskeard in December, 1917, to press forward the questions of political action and representation on local governing bodies, our propaganda efforts have been largely employed in getting together representatives of co-operative societies and trade unions in the newly-formed constituencies. Meetings for that purpose have been held at St. Austell, Truro, Penzance, Liskeard, Wadebridge, and Delabole, with the following results:—At Delabole, Liskeard, and Lostwithiel federations have been formed between the local co-operative societies and the various trade union organisations, and good work is being done by securing representation on the various Food Control Committees and the Fuel and Light Committees. The Liskeard and District Federation have secured representation on the District Food Production Committee and have recently been invited to nominate a member to sit on the County Executive of the Food Production Department. Further, the federation has been instrumental in bringing about the payment of expenses to those elected to represent Labour on these bodies.

Meetings have been held at St. Austell, Penzance, and St. Blazey with good results, and it is gratifying to report that Penzance is making a move in the right direction by opening a branch at Newlyn, which has been successful from the commencement. They have also established a boot and drapery department at Hayle, and it is doing well.

It may not be amiss to draw attention to the progressive spirit prevailing in the Penzance district, where the local society has just adopted the eight hours day for the whole of its employees. Penzance is the only society in Cornwall that has a lady serving on the committee of management.

Efforts have again been made in the Caradon district to bring the two old-established societies of Pensilva and Tokenbury Corner together, with a view of amalgamation, and it is to be hoped that our efforts will not be in vain.

Notwithstanding the many restrictions imposed by the various governing bodies, which were bound to be detrimental to the progress of co-operative societies, good reports are continually being received, and it is gratifying to know that the societies in this district are generally in a sound and healthy condition.

In closing our report we desire to tender our sincere thanks to those societies entertaining the conferences, and all who have endeavoured to make the meetings a success.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1918 :—

Receipts.		£	s.	d.
To Cash in hand.....		26	11	0
„ Subscriptions from Societies		73	10	5
„ Co-operative Union.....		45	15	7
„ Devon Co-operative Conference Association			5	0

Expenditure.		£	s.	d.
By	Conferences—			
	Saltash	12	10	7
	St. Austell	10	8	2
	Truro	11	15	8
	Plymouth	9	16	7
"	Executive Meetings	41	14	6
"	Delegations	4	10	2
"	Delegate to Congress	6	10	11
"	Propaganda Expenses	13	0	4
"	Printing	4	15	10
"	Postage and Stationery	3	5	6
"	Secretary	3	0	0
"	Treasurer	2	2	0
"	Balance	27	4	3

Audited—
J. PRYOR, P.A.

£150 17 0

£150 17 0

J. R. TOMS, Secretary.

SOUTH-WESTERN SECTION EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION

Executive Committee.

Mr. R. G. Naish (chairman), Twerton.	Mrs. Burman, Bristol.
„ W. White (hon. secretary), Torquay.	Mr. T. Dunn, Exeter.
„ J. E. Webber, Paignton.	Mrs. Warren, Exeter.
„ J. Burleigh, Bristol.	Mr. F. Ireland, Plymouth.

Representative of the Sectional Board: Rev. G. A. Ramsay, B.A.

Representative of the Devon Conference Association: Mr. F. E. Willis.

Representative of the Bristol and Somerset Conference Association:
Mr. F. Gould.

All the conferences arranged during the year were well attended by delegates from various parts of the section, and a keen interest shown in them.

The first conference was held at Bristol in January, when Mr. T. W. Mercer (Plymouth) introduced the Survey Committee's Report from its educational aspect in a very able manner. A good discussion resulted, criticism coming chiefly from the members of the women's guild present.

The second conference was held at Exeter, when Mr. E. R. S. Mundy introduced "The Educational Aspect of Political Representation." The discussion which followed his address was well sustained and of a high order. Captain Morgan, of Exeter University, also made an appeal for the support of co-operative organisations for the suggested South-Western University, and gave a fine address on the proposed scheme and the advantages of such an institution in our midst. A resolution was passed approving of the scheme.

The annual meeting at Newton Abbot in July was splendidly attended by delegates from the three counties, and the committee's report was well discussed. A resolution was passed expressing the opinion that all educational work in the sections should be done by the educational associations.

The last conference for the year was held at Bristol, when the Rev. G. A. Ramsay, B.A., gave an address on "Co-operation and Politics." General agreement was expressed with the lecturer, and an appeal made for a daily co-operative newspaper, and also for the linking up of the co-operative forces with those of the Labour Party.

During the year children's classes have been formed at Newton Abbot and Radstock, in addition to other centres.

A successful week-end school was held in May at Penscot (Somerset), a limited number of students attending, under the leadership of Mr. T. W. Mercer.

It is with regret we report the sudden passing away of our late hon. treasurer, Mr. H. V. Grassby, and also the respected father of our chairman, Mr. Naish.

WM. WHITE, Hon. Secretary.

SOUTH-WESTERN SECTION CO-OPERATIVE CONVALESCENT FUND.

Committee.

Mr. H. Wilkins (chairman), C.W.S.
 „ A. Bullock (secretary), Bristol.
 „ J. White (auditor).
 „ Ackland, Frome.
 „ R. Andrews, Newton Abbot,
 „ W. Brown, Weston-super-Mare.
 Mrs. M. Found, Bristol.

Mr. C. Powell, Twerton-on-Avon.
 „ E. R. S. Mundy, Exeter.
 „ G. Grist, Radstock.
 „ H. Westbury, Bridgwater.
 „ C. H. Cload, Torquay.
 „ C. White, Plymouth.

We have pleasure in submitting for your consideration and approval the fifth annual report and statement of accounts for the period ended 31st December, 1918.

It will be agreed that the year just closed has been very trying on account of the continued abnormal conditions with which we have been faced, and in this connection we desire to place on record our satisfaction at the excellent manner in which the administrators of the convalescent homes in this section have risen to the occasion, and although charges have had to be raised to meet existing demands, yet these charges have not been unreasonable and have enabled us to deal effectively with all cases brought to our notice.

MEMBERSHIP.

We regret that the society at Darite has been lost to us through amalgamation with Liskeard Society, but when the latter society decides to join us it will be a gain. It has been our pleasure to re-admit Yeovil and Axminster societies, which appeared in our last report as having lapsed, and we have admitted Dartmouth Society as a new member. To these societies we give a hearty welcome and would urge the committees of societies still outside to give the matter serious consideration, for every unit added to our ranks helps forward a cause which has one object only—to assist the sick and distressed.

FINANCE.

The income for the year again shows an increase on past years. This is very gratifying to your committee, as it enables us to deal generously with all applications, and when (as does occur at times) the medical attendant at an institution certifies that the patient would be further benefited by a longer stay in the home in order to fully recover, we have no hesitation in making a further grant to meet the case. We have received in contributions and donations, including Co-operative Wholesale Society's and employees' funds, a total of £279. 1s. 9d., as against £267. 4s. last year, an increase of £11. 17s. 9d.

CASES.

Through the year we have dealt with 128 cases, and have granted varying amounts according to circumstances to 126, the total cost being £268. 10s. 6d., an average of a little over 42s. per case, an increased average (through extra

cost of living) of about 1s. 1d. per case over last year. The stay at a home or private lodging is usually three weeks, but in some cases the convalescent has been unable to remain away so long, whilst in other cases the time has been extended to the great benefit of the patient. The number of cases is 28 more than last year; we think this may be due to the excessive amount of sickness during the year, as well as to the fund being now better known.

The cases considered comprise 66 men, 49 women, and 13 children; 48 cases have come under Scale A, 2 under Scale B, 2 under Scale C, and 74 under Scale D. In all, 506 weeks' benefit have been granted.

In concluding this report, we desire to tender our best thanks to those committees who have so kindly helped us on all occasions of our application for use of rooms, as well as for the kind hospitality which enables us to come into touch with our co-operative friends, thus fostering the spirit of fraternity and goodwill so much to be desired in our movement.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FROM 1ST JANUARY TO 31ST DECEMBER, 1918.

Income.			Expenditure.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Balance in Bank, 31st Dec., 1917.	116	12 1	By Grants to Cases	268	10 6
" " hand, " "	0	17 0	" Printing	4	14 6
" Contribution from Societies	244	13 9	" General Postages	4	12 0
C.W.S.	26	5 0	" Travelling and Deputation.....	3	9 3
" Bristol and Brislington C.W.S.			" Secretary's Honorarium	15	0 0
Employés	5	0 0	" Transferred to Deposit Account..	50	0 0
" Bristol Society Employés.....	3	3 0	" Bank charges	0	3 5
" From patients and refunds	3	2 0	" Balance in Bank	60	10 10
" Royal Mineral Water Hospital					
refund.....	3	0 0			
" Bank Dividend.....	1	5 10			
" " Interest	3	1 7			
" Due to treasurer	0	0 3			
	£407	0 6		£407	0 6

BANK DEPOSIT ACCOUNT.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.	
On Deposit, 31st December, 1917....	570	1	5	On Deposit, 31st December, 1918....	643	9	8	
Transferred from General Account	50	0	0					
Interest, 1918	23	8	3					
	<hr/>			Audited—				
	£643	9	8	J. WHITE.	<hr/>	£643	9	8

Audited—

J. WHITE.

£643 9 8

H. J. WILKINS, Chairman.

ALBERT BULLOCK, Secretary.

(8) WESTERN SECTION.

Ten meetings of the Board have been held since last Congress. The attendances of members are as follows:—

	Present.	Absent.
Mr. D. Evans	10	—
Mr. R. R. Chappell	9	†1
Mr. J. P. Davies	10	—
Mr. J. Ll. Powell	9	*1
Mr. D. Williams	8	†2
Mr. W. Bryant	9	†1

* Sick.

† Other Co-operative Meetings.

The following appointments were made at the first meeting:—

Chairman : Mr. D. Evans. *Treasurer* : Mr. R. R. Chappell.

Secretary : Mr. W. Bryant

Representatives to the—

United Board.....Mr. D. Williams.

Central Education Committee.....Mr. W. Bryant.

National Representation Committee.....Mr. D. Evans.

District Associations Executives—

Gloucester and HerefordMr. R. R. Chappell.

Monmouth, Brecon, and East Glamorgan....Mr. J. P. Davies.

Mid-Glamorgan.....Mr. J. Ll. Powell.

West WalesMr. D. Williams.

Splendid increases of trade and membership are recorded by many of the societies, which would undoubtedly have been much greater but for the two obstacles of registration and supplies. Also very large building developments are projected, several societies having plans prepared for various extensions amounting to an outlay, in some cases, of an expenditure of £40,000. We also hear in some of our older societies of great increases of share capital and penny bank funds.

CONFERENCES.

During the year sectional conferences have been held dealing with important matters, such as "Finance for Co-operators" (ably introduced by Mr. T. W. Allen), "Reconstruction" (introduced by Mr. Bryant), and the "Increased Subscription to the Co-operative Union" (introduced by Mr. D. Williams).

DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS.

Following our previous practice we held a joint meeting of the Board and representatives of the district executives, and arranged a plan of work for the year. Every district has been quite active, and all have held one or more district conferences to discuss the various phases of the Survey Committee's Report.

HOURS AND WAGES BOARD.

This Board, covering the whole of our sectional area, was called upon at the early part of the year to hear claims for further advances claimed by the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employees. Unfortunately, no settlement could be amicably arrived at, and as a large number of societies had already seceded from the Hours and Wages Board, the decisions recommended by that body were not uniformly carried out, so that the present position of this Board cannot be described as satisfactory, and if it is to continue to exist it will probably have to be reorganised on a different basis.

EDUCATIONAL.

A special sectional conference of all bodies interested was held in June with a view to reorganising a sectional educational committee's association, and Miss Madams, of the Central Education Committee, attended. Resolutions in favour of progress were enthusiastically passed.

A second conference on the same matter was held on 29th March, when Professor Hall gave an address on the objects to be sought. This was greatly appreciated, and the outcome of the meeting was the appointment of a preliminary committee to settle a basis of constitution to be submitted to a future meeting on 10th May.

We, therefore, now feel that we are at last on the right road towards the establishment of an association, more adequately supported and with better prospects than hitherto.

DISPUTES.

The services of the Board have been called upon on several occasions to compose the differences of societies with regard to areas and overlapping, and the results of joint meetings of the Board have, we believe, been instrumental in maintaining friendly relations between the various societies concerned.

NEW SOCIETIES.

A new society was started at Llantwit Vardre, which has since amalgamated with Ynysybwl. A small society has also been established at Llanharan.

Inquiries are also to hand from Fishguard, Pontyclun, and Machynlleth, where the prospects are reported to be encouraging for commencing operations.

GENERAL.

The Board has spent a busy year, but the pressure caused by war circumstances on individuals and societies, and very restricted train services, have militated against us. Much more we would like to have done; and, happily,

we are now able to look forward with some certainty of the restoration to better times. Our district associations have all done good work, as shown by their annual reports. The convalescent fund also continues to grow in strength financially and in the benefits it is able to confer.

In conclusion, we beg to thank all who have rendered service during the year.

W. BRYANT, Secretary.

REPORTS OF THE DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS.

No. 1.—GLOUCESTER AND HEREFORD.

Executive Committee.

Mr. M. Perkins (chairman), Cinderford.	Mr. Wm. Bullock, Lydney.
„ R. R. Chappell (sec.), Gloucester.	„ Clements, Bream.
„ F. J. Hyett (treasurer), Hereford.	„ E. Jones, Pillowell.
„ S. T. Davis, Gloucester.	„ J. J. Johnson, South Cerney.
„ A. E. Price, Stroud.	

When we presented our report last year we were hoping peace would have come and that we should have been able to carry on our propaganda work, but with the restricted railway service and the ban on the use of motors for meetings we were not able to accomplish much in this direction.

We are pleased to report that notwithstanding the difficulty in obtaining commodities the societies in the district have had a great influx of new members.

It has been a source of gratification to the members of the association that Bream Society, which for some time has been putting up a good fight against adversity, has now come successfully through its trials and is in a good financial position to meet any emergency.

The question of the representation of co-operators on public bodies has been before several societies, but only Gloucester Society has formed a council. The society is making an effort to get several co-operators elected on the Board of Guardians, when it is hoped to justify the existence of the council at the elections and also at the municipal elections.

Our usual conferences have been held, and a question that has been much discussed was the representation of the Women's Co-operative Guild on this association. The matter was not satisfactorily settled, and the general feeling is in favour of a rule being drafted to allow the guild to be represented.

At a further conference the question of the conditions of labour in the various societies and the advisability of setting up a District Hours and Wages Board was considered. Mr. Pollitt came down and gave a very instructive address on the subject. He gave it as his opinion that a District Board would be an advantage, but with the various committees in existence at present, such as baking, transport, &c., management committees are not much inclined toward the formation of a board.

résumés of the conferences held during the year, the labours of our association have largely been taken up with the question of political representation.

In reviewing the work of the association for the past year, it behoves each individual society to consider carefully the questions discussed at the various conferences, and to bring them before their members at every possible opportunity. The need of the formation of local councils has been much emphasised, as it is through this channel that our objects can be attained.

The past year, too, has been a period of introspection. The discussion at one of the conferences of the report of the Survey Committee on Trade brought to light some of the weaknesses of our hitherto adopted methods. Proposals and recommendations were put before the various societies through their representatives, and we trust these have been effective of much good.

In addition to the executive meetings, four conferences were held during the year. The first took place at Bargoed, under the auspices of the New Tredegar Society. This being the annual meeting, the report and balance sheet for the year 1917 was adopted, and the following officers were elected for the year:—President, Mr. T. R. Pembro, J.P.; vice-president, Mr. T. H. Prothero; treasurer, Mr. J. Cowling, J.P.; secretary, Mr. Jno. D. Evans; auditor, Mr. L. Squire. Mr. T. W. Allen (Co-operative Wholesale Society), in the course of an instructive address, strongly advised societies not to refuse new members, and also drew attention of those societies contemplating extensions, or the erection of new premises, to the fact that Co-operative Wholesale Society architects were now stationed at the London dépôt, and societies should endeavour to keep the whole of the work in architecture within the movement.

The second conference was held at Penarth on 27th July, under the auspices of the Penarth Society. After an interesting report of Congress had been given by Mr. T. H. Prothero, Mr. T. W. Allen (Co-operative Wholesale Society) introduced the subject for discussion, "Parliamentary and Local Representation on Public Bodies."

Mr. Allen dealt with the idealism of co-operation, and showed how the application of co-operative principles must be new in each generation. To-day we were all thinking how the new order of society which is dawning should be moulded and shaped for the full day of the Commonwealth. The first big thing, on which all other things hang, would be to ensure acceptance of our co-operative political enterprise. The goal would not be reached until every co-operative customer is so educated that he or she goes to the ballot box with an intelligent understanding of all that is meant by co-operative political action, and with a determination that so far as his or her vote goes—whether for a direct co-operative candidate or otherwise—it shall go to make and not to mar co-operative enterprise. This was the first plank in our co-operative enterprise policy, viz., "to safeguard effectually the interests of voluntary co-operation, and to resist any legislative or administrative inequality which would hamper our progress."

The address was well received, and an instructive and enthusiastic dis-

cussion followed. A resolution requesting all societies to form local councils, with a view to securing representation in Parliament and on local public bodies, was passed by the conference.

The third conference was held at Ebbw Vale on 12th October, 1918, under the auspices of the Ebbw Vale Society. After reports had been given of what had been done by the various societies in the matter of forming local councils, Mr. Bryant (member of the Survey Committee) introduced for discussion the subject, "A Review of the Trade Report of the Survey Committee."

Mr. Bryant prefaced his remarks by giving an interesting account of the labours of the committee since its formation after the Dublin Congress in 1914, to the presentation of the report to the Liverpool Congress. Dealing with the question of membership and trade, the speaker mentioned that in the Western Section less than 20 per cent of the population were co-operators, and what was more lamentable was the fact that, notwithstanding the very high wages earned, no more per annum per member was being spent at the stores than was the case twenty years ago. Mr. Bryant emphasised the importance of societies appointing canvassers for the purpose of increasing the membership, of enlisting the interest of a larger number of people in the social aspirations of the movement, and the making of nominal members into conscious and active co-operators. Societies should take steps to arrange boundaries between themselves and neighbouring societies in order to prevent overlapping.

Turning to the recommendations as to capital, the speaker urged the securing of more loan capital and the development of banks for small savings, the abolition of credit trading, and the taking of the necessary steps to secure the removal of all restrictions imposed by the Industrial and Provident Societies Act upon the share capital holding and deposits in small savings banks. After dealing with the recommendation as to profits and dividends, competition of multiple shops, collective use of profits, &c., Mr. Bryant urged the societies to look upon the recommendations of the committee as the "Charter of Reconstruction."

The address gave rise to a fruitful discussion, and a resolution was passed referring the "Review and Recommendations" to the societies for consideration, the delegates to report to the next conference.

The fourth conference was held at Aberaman, under the auspices of the Cwmbach-Aberaman Society, on 11th January, 1919. Reports were given by the representatives of the result of the consideration of the Trade Review of the Survey Committee by their respective societies, and a resolution was unanimously passed accepting the recommendations.

In introducing the subject for discussion, viz., "The Recommendations regarding the Constitution of the Co-operative Union Limited," Mr. Bryant stated that he did not expect the same unanimity on the proposals as those of the Trade Review, but the Survey Committee were anxious that the proposals contained in their report should be fully ventilated during the present year, and would welcome all criticism so long as it was based on broad and generous

lines, and with the desire to mould the suggested new constitution of the Union in such a way as to make it as perfect as possible.

The whole of the recommendations were exhaustively dealt with, the speaker explaining the objects sought and the results to be attained by the proposals, which, if accepted, would tend to the realisation of our ideals.

The conferences were excellently attended, and the discussions on the various subjects, which embraced many of the vital questions affecting the future of our movement, revealed a growing keenness on the part of the societies, and a determination to overcome the deliberate attempts of the capitalistic groups to cripple the movement.

The financial position of the association continues to be good, and after meeting the various items of expenditure there is a balance in bank of £111. 13s. 1d.

The committee again have to thank the societies for their kind hospitality in entertaining the delegates at the various conferences to tea.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1918:—

Receipts.			Expenditure.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Balance at Bank, 31st Dec., 1917	87	3 4	By Conferences	71	3 9
„ Contributions from Societies.....	138	3 1	„ Executive Meetings	23	11 4
„ Western Section	25	3 1	„ Western Section Conference....	0	11 0
„ Bank Dividend and Interest	2	15 3	„ Hours & Wages Board Meetings.	4	16 3
			„ Delegate to Congress	6	11 9
			„ Printing and Literature	18	18 0
			„ Stationery, Postage, &c.	7	12 3
			„ Bank Charges	0	2 4
			„ Secretary's Salary	5	0 0
			„ Treasurer's Salary	3	0 0
			„ Auditor's Fees	0	5 0
			„ Balance at Bank, 31st Dec., 1918.	111	13 1
Audited—					
L. M. SQUIRE.					
	£253	4 9		£253	4 9

JNO. D. EVANS, Secretary.

No. 3.—WEST WALES.

Executive Committee.

Mr. W. J. Lewis (chairman), Craig-cefnparc.	Mr. C. Davies (auditor), Cwmbwrla.
„ Samuel Jones (secretary), Skewen.	„ E. Hopkins, Pontardulais.
„ D. Roderick (vice-chairman), Carmarthen.	„ T. Stroud, Resolven.
„ W. Bevan (treasurer), Swansea.	„ J. Eager, Burry Port.
	„ T. R. Williams, Pontardawe.

Representative of Western Sectional Board: Mr. D. Williams, J.P., Swansea.

In submitting the report and balance sheet for the year ending 31st December, 1918, it is gratifying to note that the societies affiliated to the association have more than maintained their former standard of success. This is chiefly attributable to the energies put forward by the various committees in their respective areas, helped by the assistance received at the various conferences held during the year, whereby we believe much benefit has been derived by the contact of co-operators throughout the district.

With the cessation of hostilities in the great European struggle we hope

it will not be long ere the restrictions imposed upon railway facilities will be removed, so that former relations may be renewed by means of visitations to societies in the scattered areas.

Owing to the difficulties in connection with obtaining food supplies societies have been greatly hampered with regard to increasing their membership, though in several instances risks have been taken with encouraging results. With the removal of the control of commodities a great influx of members is anticipated.

As the result of the resolution adopted at the recent Swansea Congress in connection with Parliamentary and local representation some attention has been given to the question of obtaining direct representation in Parliament, and a conference of societies in the Neath Division was held at Swansea on 2nd March, 1918, to consider the matter in all its bearings. The decision arrived at was communicated to a conference held on 9th March, 1918, under the auspices of the Trades and Labour Councils for the same area, but met with scant support, which goes to prove that there is yet considerable leeway to be made up between co-operators and trade-unionists in the district. Though this first attempt was unsuccessful, we are convinced that the seed has been sown and that it will soon bear fruit. Similar efforts are being made towards securing representation on all local and county administrative bodies, and the results are awaited with interest.

It is pleasing to report that a former member of the executive committee, viz., Mr. S. Rees, has been appointed one of the organisers under the National Co-operative Representation Committee, to whom we extend our heartiest congratulations.

Educational work in the district has been productive of excellent results, and the executive committee has had in view the question of establishing a Two-days Summer School in the district, so that co-operators could have an opportunity of deriving much knowledge of the movement from lectures delivered in connection therewith. Though the scheme, for various reasons, has not yet matured, we are hopeful of the future.

The four quarterly conferences were held as follows :—

Date.	Place.	Subject.	Speaker.
1918. 16th Mar. .	Swansea	Representation of Co-operators in Parliament.	Mr. D. Williams, J.P., Swansea.
15th June .	Swansea	Congress Report	Mr. T. R. Williams, Pontardawe
28th Sept..	Swansea	Survey Report (Trade Section)	Mr. W. H. Bryant, Blaenavon.
21st Dec. .	Swansea	Co-operative Difficulties..	Mr. W. J. Lewis, Craig- cefnparc.

Co-operation within the area has done exceedingly well considering the barrier a great war is to commercial progress. The members of co-operative societies have been supplied with the necessities of life in a way creditable to staffs and management committees of societies. The difficulties caused through war were great, but the keen business capacity and intelligence of men in charge of the management of societies did well under the circumstances. Now the war is over societies within the area anticipate extending their premises to meet the demand for trade for present membership, and to meet an enormous demand from the influx of new members when registration has ceased. Co-operation has taught the workers that it is the best security against profiteering during war and the cleanest commercial trading during peace.

The conferences were well attended. The papers and discussions were intelligent and showed plainly that the young generation, arising midst the working classes to-day, can tackle social and economical questions with keen intelligence and bright vision.

Mr. Wyndham Edwards (Cwmavon) addressed a few meetings within the area of the association on "Co-operation as an Economic Force." His lectures were excellently delivered, but we are sorry that the attendances at the meetings were very poor. It needs enthusiasm amongst committees of local societies to gather the members to these meetings.

A number of societies have children's classes in connection with their societies; also classes in Economics, Industrial History, Book-keeping, &c.

We experimented in a Summer School at Barry, on Friday and Saturday, 20th and 21st September, 1918, the teacher being Mr. J. Thomas, B.A., of Swansea. Twenty-five students attended the school. The lecturer split his subject into four lectures, viz. :—

- (a) "Historical Survey of Events, culminating in the decision to organise the Co-operative Movement for Political Action."
- (b) "The Co-operative Ideal: A Commonwealth, and Steps towards it, as outlined in the Co-operative Party Programme."
- (c) "The Plans for Immediate Political Action by Co-operators."
- (d) "The Detailed Machinery for Immediate Political Action by Co-operators."

The students were delighted with the teacher and the subject, and we have confidence that if the association arrange more summer schools, and societies send a good number of their committee-men to such schools, we can look to the future with security, that the generation coming will have in each village men capable of spreading a knowledge of the movement. More schools, enthusiastic students, then co-operation from its ethical view-point will be assured. We again ask societies to carry on education work locally and give special attention to the children, because in them we see the possibilities of a co-operative commonwealth.

The executive council have not agreed to hold Week-end Schools on Sundays, hence the holding of our first school on Friday and Saturday. We

FIRST DAY OF CONGRESS.

AFTERNOON SITTING.

DISCUSSION ON THE REPORT.

Punctually at 2 p.m. the Chairman took the chair for the afternoon session. He intimated that Congress would commence the discussion on the report of the Central Board, and suggested that delegates desiring to speak should come to the front.

FIGURES FOR 1918.

At the outset the GENERAL SECRETARY announced a number of statistics relating to the trade of the movement in 1918. He said : As regards progress for 1918 we have got the estimated figures. The membership has increased by 42,431, share capital by £5,105,000, trade by £12,700,000. The total membership is 3,830,000, share capital £53,700,000, and the trade for 1918 was £155,692,000.

THE WHOLESALE SOCIETIES.

(See Report 3, page 126.)

A DELEGATE : Is there anything to add in regard to the milk question ?
The CHAIRMAN : No.

CO-OPERATIVE FARMING.

(See Report 6, page 134.)

Mr. J. CAIRNS (St. Cuthbert's, Edinburgh), speaking in regard to the Farming Return, said : Some of us who realise the importance of this subject are extremely dissatisfied and disappointed with the way in which the statistics are presented. To say the least of it, they are entirely misleading. Under the column headed "Surplus" the nature of the surplus varies. In one case it includes, I speak of Scotland, the produce of an important distributive department, and in another case the rent and interest is not deducted. With regard to capital it is absolutely different. Sometimes the price of land is given, and sometimes the capital in the cultivation of the land ; sometimes the two sums are put together and given as one sum. Societies are not always so careful as they should be, but in this case the

fault is with the Union. It so happens that the form can be filled up in various ways, and I think, therefore, that the Co-operative Union before sending out the form should take counsel with those who know something about the subject.

Mr. F. G. GILLINGHAM (Bristol and Somerset Association): In regard to farming by co-operative societies, I think the time has arrived for the Wholesale directors to acquire land for the societies in agricultural areas. In the South-Western Section a conference was held to ascertain what could be done in regard to this question. I think there are three or four millions of acres of land in the whole area there, and the land possessed by societies is only 3,220 acres. The development of co-operation depends on the acquisition of land, and those at the head of affairs should make it easily obtainable by distributive societies. I submit it is preferable from many points of view, but chiefly from this: we don't believe in the competitive spirit, and the owners of land make it difficult for societies to get it. Rings have been formed around societies, and I submit that those at the head of affairs should send somebody to get land unknown to the rings. In the South-Western Section we feel that distributive societies should be helped to get land when they have the opportunity of developing farming in their societies.

CO-OPERATIVE INSURANCE.

(See Report 8, page 135.)

Mr. J. Y. PEMBLETON (Worcester) spoke of the difficulties of members of societies in parts of the country where the co-operative insurance agents were not close at hand, and suggested that insurance offices should be established in every village in the land.

Mr. H. VARLEY (Chesterfield): It is about time the Wholesale Society went in for insurance thoroughly or dropped it altogether. I have been in this business nine years, and I wrote to the Wholesale Society asking what terms they offered to agents. I had a reply stating I would get what I made. A man cannot live on 10s. a week and he would be lucky if he made that for a start. If co-operators go into the business they must copy the methods, to a certain extent, of the other insurance companies. It is high time they set themselves to make a success of it or dropped it altogether.

Mr. W. EDWARDS (Accrington Provident) said: There are no tables in the insurance world which can compete with those of the Co-operative Insurance Society. I have been for a number of years an insurance agent and I am conversant with all the tables of the different insurance societies, but I believe the Co-operative Wholesale tables will stand comparison with the best tables in the country. There must be something lacking. I have been in Manchester at the head office and I must admit that when I have gone there to transact business I have been buffeted from one department to another and there is a great amount of red tape. I went down

in regard to collective assurance. I was asked "Are you members of the Wholesale Society?" I answered, "No." The reply was, "Then I cannot do anything for you." I am an insurance agent, and if you had to meet me to speak on the question of insurance I should immediately ask you the amount of insurance you wished to make. What I want to see in this section is that we should become a live insurance section of the co-operative movement. There is in the world of insurance an unrest amongst the agents throughout the length and breadth of this country, and many of them would be most ready to become employees of the Wholesale Society if they were ready to recognise their abilities and pay them an income upon which they could live.

SOCIETIES DISSOLVED.

(See Report 11, page 138.)

Mr. E. WHITELEY (Manchester and Salford). Societies dissolved. May we have another column showing which of these societies were members of the Union? We cannot tell from the information as it is now presented to us.

NEW MEMBERS.

(See Report 12, page 139.)

Mr. F. JENNINGS (Pendleton): I want to know if the societies named here are the only societies which have been received into membership during last year. Is it essential that Congress shall accept these names before the societies become recognised members of the Union? To speak quite frankly, I am referring to a society in Manchester, which rumour says has become a member of the Union.

Mr. E. O. GREENING (London Bookbinders): I am afraid my voice at eighty-three years of age will scarcely carry so far or be so clearly heard as at thirty-eight. I do not want this paragraph to be passed over without some notice being taken of the advent into our movement of a society in China. Mr. Rudyard Kipling has said, "the West is west and the East is east, and never the Twain will meet." I hope co-operation is going to disprove the assertion. We have interlinked nearly all the civilised nations of the world, and I trust we shall not remain satisfied until we have encircled the whole world with our principles of friendship and brotherhood. We, as co-operators, welcome the people of China into our movement. I do not know the Society which has sought membership with us, but I see from the report it is in the west of China. There the main population is Chinese, and although this society may have been commenced by Europeans, its influence is sure to reach the native masses. The people of China are more or less already prepared for co-operative work. It may not be generally known that throughout that great Empire there is a system of peoples' banks, somewhat similar to those which exist in Germany, so that, as I say, the

ground is already prepared for us. I hope we shall welcome the Society with both hands, and let it go out from this Congress that we are glad the East is coming near the West, for I believe myself co-operation offers a better medium than anything else we know for bringing peace on earth and goodwill to men.

The CHAIRMAN: I have to say that this report covers the financial year of the Union only, and that since it was compiled additional societies have been admitted. I am sure we are all pleased to see that the Beswick Society, the society to which I think our friend is referring, has seen its way to rejoin the Union, and I hope we shall never see a recurrence of the events which happened a few years ago. I also desire to suggest that we should show by acclamation, that we agree to re-admit the Beswick Society into the Union, as it was by a decision of Congress that the society ceased to be members. Will those who approve, say "Aye."

Mr. JENNINGS: The name is not in this list, and we did not know that the Beswick Society was applying for affiliation. I venture to suggest that if the delegates knew the position regarding Beswick they would not accept it as a member of the Union until the whole matter had been cleared up. Why should Beswick give preferential treatment to its members who are employees of the Wholesale Society? Let Beswick put itself right with the co-operative movement.

The CHAIRMAN: They are accepted into the Union with the approval of the Manchester societies. I think the information in the possession of our friend is somewhat belated.

Mr. J. J. WORLEY (Leicester): I want to make an appeal at this time of the day when we are advocating a closer union between trade-unionists and ourselves, and when trade-unionists are claiming a share of control, and we, as co-operators, are always claiming to give a lead to the public and labour opinion. I say we ought to be showing a lead in giving control to workers. Let us see that the employee is called, in an organised capacity, in consultation on the details, so that when the scheme is evolved it will prove acceptable alike, both to us as co-operators and employees in our capacity as trade-unionists.

Mr. W. T. NEWLOVE (Coventry Perseverance): Will you take into consideration the transference of a member from one society to another? If I am a trade-unionist I can come from Leeds or Coventry and join my union in the town I am in. I think we should have some kind of introduction card to show that we have been in some co-operative society when going to another town, just as members of a Christian church have.

The GENERAL SECRETARY: That is really outside the report; but I may say the Co-operative Union dealt with this at the Preston Congress. The principle is entirely different with a member of a trading concern. Your investment is a personal investment in your own name, therefore you are the only one who can give a valid receipt for withdrawal. However, we have a pamphlet dealing with the subject, showing how it can be done.

THE CENTRAL BOARD.

(See Report 15, page 140.)

Mr. T. M. YOUNG (Eccles): The Central Board suggest a graduated tax to liquidate the National Debt incurred by the cost of the war. Well, I want the assurance of the Prime Minister that the burden of this taxation is imposed on Germany and Austria, and I want the assurance, before the Central Board send out literature on a graduated tax, that the Government will be enforced to carry out its programme and see that the war indemnity is paid by Germany and Austria.

Mr. J. H. MHELL (Portsea Island): There are five words here to which I object, "and on all stored capital." Surely the Board do not need to include stored wealth of co-operative societies in dealing with the question of the levy on capital.

The PRESIDENT: The word "on" should be deleted and the word "or" take its place.

THE CENTRAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

(See Report 19, page 145.)

Mr. W. R. RAE (Northern Section) moved the adoption of the report of the Central Education Committee. He said: A friend asked me, "Aren't you tired of talking about education?" I said "No, my friend." So long as co-operators need knowledge and need inspiration, I must go on talking of education; and so must every true lover of industry and knowledge. We are very much indebted indeed to those education committees and business committees who carry on education work in their spare time for, in spite of adverse circumstances, they have carried on so well during the past year, that the number of our classes has risen by nearly 100. Last year we had 664 classes; and the number of students has risen by quite 1,000; we have had, during the past year, 21,000 students. My friend and colleague, Mr. Dogherty, said the future lay with the children. Co-operators applauded, but co-operators do not agree, for there are far more than 14,000 children in the co-operative movement, and that is all that we have as yet in our classes. We have carried on our usual work, and intend to carry on even in face of the Education Act, which gives so many "misses" that ought to be masters. So we are going to hang on to our work until we see how much of their duty the taxation authorities are prepared to face. We had more than 500 students at the summer schools last year, and it looks as though we shall have far more this year, although it is only eight or nine years since the inception of the idea. We have had lectures during the past year and they proved very acceptable, especially in that part of the world where everybody is at peace with everybody, namely, South Wales; in that corner the lecture committees came off tip-top, and we will try to do still more for the committees. We had a school all the week at Otley for education secretaries; they taught us and we taught

them things that will redound to us in the course of our work during the year. We are trying another experiment in the summer at Bradley Court. We are going to gather together our young people ; those over 14 and 15 and under 20 and 21 years of age. We are extremely hopeful that we shall begin there a movement that will afterwards require considerable increase in this kind of work. We feel we have a great deal to do, even to gather what has already been planted ; but we have a great deal to do in addition to that. I long for the day when we shall have more money and more staff. We have done what we could as a committee—have you done what you could as men in charge of co-operative societies ? Our opportunities are limited, our responsibilities are great. Help us by putting your principles into practice by work at home.

Mr. S. BLAKEBOROUGH (Burnley) seconded the adoption of the Educational Committee's report.

Mr. E. W. MUNDY (Bristol Printers) : I wish to draw attention to the paragraph which reads : "The week-end school movement has been much developed during the past year and continues to be a popular form of education." Since coming to the Congress I have been surprised to find that all co-operators have not appreciated the value of the week-end and summer schools. I would like to make my voice heard in favour of every one going back from this Congress determined that they will apply for a week-end school to be held in their neighbourhood. They will, by that means, get a new spirit and a new life in their local societies they could not get in any other way.

A DELEGATE : What are the views of the Committee with regard to the new Education Act as it applies to children between 14 and 16 ?

Mr. R. HALSTEAD (Co-operative Productive Federation) : I should like to draw attention to the scholarships at the summer schools. This is a matter of considerable importance for societies ; and it is very advantageous to the societies that as many scholars as possible should be sent from their localities to these summer schools. To this year's summer schools Leicester is sending 30 students. I want every big town to send the same proportion of scholars, so that Mr. Rae and his committee will be at their wits' end to know what to do with them.

Mr. C. W. BROWN (Coalville) suggested that £250,000 would be nearer the sum required for the Co-operative College than the £50,000 suggested.

Further questions were put by Mr. Sharples (Blackburn), Mr. Evans (Brightside and Carbrook), and Mr. Sugar (Blackley).

Mr. W. C. POTTER (Stratford) : I feel that now that the war is over and peace is coming back again there is going to be a great future for the Men's Guild. I want to emphasise it, for now that the movement has decided to go into politics there is only one body that can do this work, apart from the Women's Guild, and that is the Men's Guild. It is not sufficient just to ask people to give you a vote ; you have to teach them the principles and ideals of co-operation. We think that through an organisa-

tion like the Men's Guild you would have a chance of teaching them, and I urge that every man will see to it that his society establishes a branch of the Guild, thus getting all men into one solid body and nearer a co-operative commonwealth.

Mr. W. T. NEWLOVE (Coventry): I have been thinking in regard to joint guilds. I think it is a step in the right direction. The Men's Guild has had a terrible struggle during the war. We have had meeting after meeting, and there were only five or six men who attended to hear splendid lectures from well-educated people. It has occurred to me on many occasions that it was really a shame to bring these gentlemen there after they had spent weeks and months preparing scientific lectures. On the other hand we have the Women's Guild with an assured attendance. My point is, that if you have a joint guild—for we object to the dividing of the sexes—every lecturer who comes would have an audience of from 70 to 80 people instead of seven or eight.

Mr. J. EVANS (Hereford): We have an extensive programme of education, and while it is wise to look to the ideals, we must remember the great difficulty in the educational committees getting into touch with the rank and file. While I support the educational programme I hold that the principle of co-operative societies that first-class goods should be supplied at reasonable prices and with a reasonable dividend is undoubtedly the best way to reach the rank and file.

Mr. W. ROBINSON (Leadgate): With reference to the appointment of a staff of organisers and lecturers, I agree with Mr. Rae that it is necessary, but it is still more necessary to get at the rank and file. I hope, when these organisers are appointed, that you will try and get in touch not only with the men's and women's guilds, but every man and woman of the societies, and also their children. Let us bring young children in. Why should we not use the cinema? Could we not show films of the different productive departments of the co-operative movement? Seventy-five per cent of our members do not see further than what dividend is going to be paid, and we have to educate them into those ideals we are aiming at. It is all very well to lecture to the committee; but second-hand information will not do; you must give the rank and file first-hand education.

Mr. C. W. MORTIMER (Eccles) wished to know what kind of organisers were to be appointed, and what kind of work they were to do.

Mr. H. HORNSEY (Worksop): I should like to know who the students are that are likely to be trained or educated at this proposed college. In my opinion the selected students will be the sons and daughters of the aristocratic and middle classes of the co-operative movement.

The CHAIRMAN: I think there has been a slight misunderstanding. Our friend is referring to the next resolution and not the one under consideration.

Mr. S. KEMP (Wigston Hosiers): It has been stated that the cost of the college in the first instance would be £50,000, and seeing that we are

likely to be asked to give further financial assistance, I should be interested if the amount that we are likely to require to carry out this programme can be stated.

Mr. F. G. GILLINGHAM (Bristol and Somerset Association): Does the United Board propose to issue any literature which will give us an idea of the relation between co-operative societies and the Government proposals regarding public utility societies?

Mr. A. J. TAPPING (Derby): In regard to the development of social, recreational, and educational work, have the Education Committee taken into consideration the suggestion of local committees holding May festivals for seniors and juniors? I should like this taken in hand. It would bring us closer into touch with those forces with which we are trying to work in co-operation.

Mr. RAE, replying to the discussion, said: The first question asked had reference to boys and girls between 14 and 16 years of age, and the delegate who asked it can rely on this, that we will not hand over any organised attempt that we have in existence to improve the position of these young people to anybody else until we are quite sure that they will take it up and carry it out satisfactorily. We will not support schools attached to works that may have a tendency to become so subordinate to the work as to cease to be valuable as schools. Our policy has been to supplement the work of the municipality from an educational point of view and make up for its deficiencies whilst doing our best to see that it does its duty. That shall be our policy in the future, as it has been in the past. My request to you is that you as parents and leaders of groups should take steps in your own towns to call meetings of parents and others interested in education, which you may do under the Education Act, and represent your views by resolution to the 'local educational authorities,' so that you may take advantage of the privileges outlined in the Act. You have never had a chance before of telling the local educational authority what the schools should be like, and you will not be true to one another, nor to your children, if you do not take advantage of this opportunity. Mr. Sharples asked a question regarding the eligibility of women for the Hughes and Neale scholarships. Women were not eligible for these scholarships, but they are for all our scholarships, research and otherwise. It is very good to know what Mr. Sugar (Blackley) thinks about technical subjects. He was a little bit inclined to chastise the United Board, and I would like to add a little bit of power to his elbow. I am afraid the United Board has not had sufficient faith in you, but I believe as the result of this Congress there will be plenty of money, at least for a while, for us to carry on our work. Mr. Halstead has made reference to scholarships at our summer schools. This is one of the most pleasing parts of our work. It is not more than five years since we began to ask societies to found scholarships tenable at these schools, never thinking, although we were fairly optimistic, that they would respond so well as they have done. Some societies had offered twelve and others fifteen

scholarships, and as a result we are expecting a very large number of scholarship holders of both sexes and all ages at the summer schools this year. So far as the college is concerned, I do not know whether the gentleman who estimated our requirements at £250,000 is specially endowed with ability to express an opinion upon such a subject, but I do know that the information which we have at our disposal justifies us in stating that £50,000 will give us a splendid start. We have had offered to us a building that will amply meet our requirements for a large number of years. It is well built and beautifully situated, and we can have it for considerably less than £50,000, which leaves a considerable margin for endowing the college afterwards. The Survey Committee is suggesting that 20 per cent of the Union's income should be devoted to education, and if you adopt the suggestion we shall be able to carry on all our work and the college as well. I want to thank the delegate who complimented us on our work. I felt like blushing, for we seldom get praise for what we do. The question of mixed guilds is still under consideration. We are taking the matter up with the Women's Guild and the Men's Guild, because we do not want mixed guilds to injure the work now being done by those two organisations. Mr. Evans wants us to reach the rank and file at first hand and not through educational committees. That will be our endeavour when we get our organisers appointed, who will go down to societies and see whether it is not possible to stir up some of those who were responsible for local educational activities. Some one has suggested a class for members of the Central Board, and all I can say is that if such a class is started I will do my best to make good scholars of them. Mr. Gillingham wants literature regarding public utility societies. If the Publications Committee can get any literature which will enable our societies to understand their position under the Public Utility Societies Act we will publish it and circulate it. May festivals for juniors and seniors were suggested by Mr. Tapping. We were organising these many years ago, and are still prepared to organise them. I have personally been present at many of these festivals organised by societies in the past twenty-five years.

The report was adopted.

A CO-OPERATIVE COLLEGE.

Rev. G. A. RAMSAY, B.A. (South-Western Section), moved the following resolution:—

This Congress, realising the value and necessity of education on co-operative lines as a means of fostering co-operation in all its aspects and assisting the establishment of a Co-operative Commonwealth, approves the work of the Central Educational Committee and the proposed development of its activities, including the establishment of a Co-operative College; and is of the opinion that the committee should be provided with the necessary staff and financial assistance to develop its work on the lines indicated in the report to Congress.

He said : This is one of the most important resolutions this Congress is going to pass. It is one of far-reaching effect on the future progress and development of the co-operative movement. I want you to understand what is the real inwardness of the resolution. It is put before you because the Central Education Committee want to take you, the rank and file, into their fullest confidence, and to tell you that unless something is done to give greater opportunity for the Central Education Committee, not only will it have to refuse opportunities for work that are in front of it at the present time, but it will have to considerably modify its efforts. We ought not to restrict our present educational activities. We ask you, first of all, to express your faith in co-operative education. If you will come to the latter part of the resolution you will see it is saved from being a merely pious resolution, because the latter part is asking for money. To-day the potentiality of the co-operative movement is greater than ever it has been ; and we are simply besieged with requests for the development of our work. We must understand the relationship of the co-operative movement not only to our ideals but also to the development of our business, because it has a very real relationship to the business side of our movement. Take for illustration the need for capital. How is that capital going to flow into the movement ? I know we can put before our movement the fact that we can offer security and can beat others in the money market ; but that is not a satisfactory position for capitalising the movement. You must consider the education of the democracy, so that they can understand and appreciate the relations between capital and our everyday life, our political life, and our international life. We cannot allow other people to control our finances ; and we are not going to allow them to develop our movement. Capital is going to be a very serious want. And then take the position of membership. From the experience I have received as the chairman of a management committee, I know that the attraction of the dividend is not going to be so great in the future as in the past. A combination of circumstances outside our movement is forcing us into the acceptance of this fact. Yet we want a larger membership. How are we going to get it, except by education ? We ask you to approve, in this resolution, the principle of the co-operative college. The co-operative college is not a speculation ; it is an absolute need of the movement. We have heard a great deal of pivot men—the co-operative college is a pivot fact ; we cannot go on without it. You have heard of 21,000 students receiving instruction, and nearly 500 attending the summer schools and we know we are only dealing fairly and justly with students, and individuals, and the movement if we can offer the advantage of a residential period of instruction.

Mr. F. HARTSHORNE (Hinckley) : I second the resolution.

Mr. R. PEARCE (South-Western Section) : I want to say a few words in support of the resolution. Mr. Ramsay has dealt with a very important question for the co-operative movement. We are told sometimes that the State should be the sole body to regulate the education of the nation ;

but when we look at the programme of the co-operative movement we find that there are phases of education there not found in the State's curriculum. And if there is occasionally an idea as to the future in the State curriculum, such as Citizenship, we find that it differs somewhat from the idea of citizenship as propounded in the co-operative movement. We find that the citizenship of the State curriculum is the idea of national patriotism, which is a military form of patriotism. The co-operative idea of patriotism is larger and broader than that. The co-operative idea is that where you find a man you find a brother, and that when you find a human being you find a person to whom you have some responsibility. We do not think of the co-operative commonwealth as a commonwealth within a commonwealth; we think of it as a commonwealth of the world; and if we wish to carry that idea into effect every function of the nation, or of the State, should become the function of the co-operative movement. Education in citizenship, patriotism and the relations of men should be the great idea behind a co-operative college and our whole educational scheme.

Mr. H. HONSEY (Workshop): I should like to know who the students are that are likely to be trained or educated at this proposed college. I am convinced that the selected students will be sons and daughters of the aristocratic and middle classes of the co-operative movement. Those whom I refer to as the aristocratic classes, are the officials, managers, and secretaries of the co-operative movement, and the middle classes are the well-to-do members and employees who are paid top wages or receiving good salaries. It strikes me very forcibly that no sons and daughters of our poorer members will enter because they will not have the means or facilities to send their children to this college. What I mean by the poorer members are the farm labourers, common labourers, or other members in receipt of poor wages, and the widows of fallen soldiers.

Mr. W. GOODALL (Burton-on-Trent): We want a place to send our best men to, and a place they will gather co-operative sentiment, such as the sentiment that surrounds Cambridge. We have been training men to be thrifty, and we have made them lovers of money more than lovers of men. Let us put forth our energy to fit them as editors, preachers, and teachers, to show to the world that we believe in something more than dividends, and that we believe in the intellectual enlightenment and uplift of man. This is an inspiration and a chance of a lifetime.

Mr. F. HALL (Adviser of Studies), in replying to the discussion, said: There are two or three questions asked by various speakers and perhaps I may reply to them before I say what I would like to say. A question was asked regarding the income of the committee and the amount of money required to carry on the work. Mr. Rae has mentioned this, but apparently all he said, was not understood. According to the report of the Survey Committee, accepted at Swansea, 20 per cent of the income of the Union will, after the alteration of rules, be allocated for educational work. That amount will, it is estimated, be sufficient to cover the expenses incurred

by the developments outlined in the programme to-day. That, of course, is exclusive of the special appeal which we shall probably make for the £50,000 for the college. A further point was the nomination of students. We are of the opinion that these students should be nominated by their respective societies for admission to the college. In regard to the remarks of our friend, I can assure him that the poor man's child and the widow's child will have a better chance at the co-operative college than in any college that now exists. A co-operative society is much more likely to be sympathetic to a young co-operator who is poor than to a young co-operator who does not need the assistance of his society. The co-operative college is not a college where we are going to do the work of the State and to train students to get on for their own advantage; it is a place to train people for better co-operative service, and the curriculum will be arranged accordingly. We want the aristocrat's child, and the poor man's child, and the widow's child, and all young people, to train them for co-operative service. We ask you to agree with the Central Education Committee in this work, in the principle, and the direction in which we are going, and as a movement, by finding the money to let it go forward. You have asked us to develop and we have begun developing, and when it is started we must have support to keep up that development. You ask us to develop our work among juniors, and we say we want to; but there are only twenty-four hours in a day and we have only three people on our staff to deal with this work. We must have more people on our staff if we are to deal with this matter. Do you want us to restrict our activities or to expand them? That is the question you have to decide this afternoon. We want you to say you want us to go forward and are prepared to back us up.

A vote was then taken and the CHAIRMAN announced that the resolution was carried.

STATISTICS AND GENERAL PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE.

(See Report 20, page 156.)

Mr. W. R. RAE (chairman, Central Education Committee) formally moved the report of the Statistics and General Publications Committee.

Mr. V. M. HARDY (Blaydon) drew attention to the fact that the cost of carriage had been charged on books he had obtained through his local society, so bringing the charge much higher than the catalogue price.

Mr. J. BAYNE (Alloa): We have paid far too little attention to music, and I want to ask our Committee what they are doing in this direction. Are they going to develop and have original music set to our co-operative songs? Music should occupy a higher plane in our movement than it does at present, and I hope the Publications Committee will attend to this question.

Mr. RAE: There are only two questions: one I scarcely understood. I am not quite sure whether our friend was ordering our books or someone

else's books. If a member of a co-operative society has a catalogue and orders a book, he can buy it at the price of the catalogue. If his manager orders it, he also can buy it at the price of the catalogue. But if our friend has difficulty he should write to the secretary of the Publications Committee. To go in for more music and song is our wish. Some two or three years ago we got certain original songs and since then we have had others, but when we went into the prices of printing and publishing original music we had to hold our hands. The price had gone up tremendously. The Publications Committee are perfectly alive to the necessity for the songs of the movement being of a high class, and as far as it is possible we will print songs worthy of the singers.

JOINT PROPAGANDA COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

(See Report 21, page 161.)

Mr. W. GREGORY (North-Western Section): The report I have to submit to you is that of the Joint Propaganda Committee. It is a very brief, but a comprehensive one. I wish to emphasise the fact that the limitations of the Committee's activities during the period covered by this report are owing to conditions prevailing in consequence of the war; but we hope, when entering on a time of greater activity—the period of reconstruction and development—that a serious attempt will be made to develop the movement in those localities and districts where it is needed. We hope there will be a great demand for the services of the Joint Propaganda Committee in the near future. A request was made for an organiser in the London area; that organiser has been engaged, and the work resulting from his efforts has proved to be very satisfactory, and has certainly verified the wisdom of the appointment. We are hoping there will be demands made for appointments and work of a similar character. We hope to inaugurate a system of propaganda to meet all requirements.

Mr. G. A. ARNOLD (Southwell): Multiple shops are already buying out small shops and establishing branches, and the co-operative movement ought to be on the move. In our rural districts there is a demand for co-operative facilities, and there is need for co-operation.

Mr. F. H. BRUFF (Birmingham Printers): Mr. Gregory has told us nothing of the plans for future work. Our friend tells us the multiple shop is on the job. Of course it is; it is always on the job. If only the Joint Propaganda Committee will back up the sectional propaganda committees we shall get along faster. If the Co-operative Union want more money from societies let them show the societies that they are getting something for their money.

Mr. W. G. WARREN (Grays): It seems to me there is a lot of printed matter that does not contain much useful information. There are plenty of people in the movement to assist the Union if they cannot manage to do the job themselves. It is pretty well time that all societies of 5,000 members and over should have an organiser. Our sectional boards do not

devote the amount of attention they might do to the work.' It is all right talking about the war—the war has been going on over four years—and saying you have not had the opportunity to do this kind of thing. We have lagged behind; and it is time we got on.

JOINT PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

(See Report 22, page 162.)

SIR THOMAS ALLEN (Co-operative Wholesale Society), moving the adoption of the report of the Joint Parliamentary Committee, said: After the tribute paid to the Parliamentary Committee in the President's inaugural address, it seems scarcely necessary to say anything to commend this report to you. We are able to record substantial results in several branches of administration. Justice that was so long in coming to the co-operative movement has been done in several specific directions; but a committee whose work was so necessary and so strenuous must naturally have failed to give complete satisfaction to societies. Indeed, we do not desire that you should be completely satisfied with what has been accomplished. There are too many things that yet need correction to allow us to be satisfied completely. We do ask you to believe, however, that we have done something valuable for societies in respect to the future. It is quite probable that we are facing the last phase of the Parliamentary Committee's work in one direction—that is with regard to control—and it would perhaps be profitable to take one or two things in the report and point to the lessons we have received. It is said that there is nothing so dramatic as truth; and the first truth we have learned in the Parliamentary Committee is that the co-operative movement, for this country, is a grim, stern necessity. The Mayor told us this morning that "God fulfils Himself in many ways lest one good custom should corrupt the world." It would be blasphemy to say that God is fulfilling Himself by the enterprises of the vested interests at the present time. God has nothing at all to do with that; it is the work of the devil in the hearts of men, whether they know it or not. It is to the glory of the co-operative movement that during the period of national crisis it had nothing to repudiate and nothing to scrap. Its principles have been proved and have stood every modern test. We are proud to believe that through the national crisis we have played a clean game, and a game of which no co-operator need feel ashamed. I firmly believe we have reached the hour of new opportunities—hours of constructive, reconciling efforts—and that there have grown up in our midst thinking people who are looking to the co-operative movement for the redemption of the future. Workers, new and old, have discovered that though wages have gone up they have not improved their social status. The profiteers have had their victory but it is a victory that has been sterilising and debased. Their deeds are written in the Book of Doom; but we are only at the Book of Genesis. We are the architects and not the upholsterers of the future. The last truth I want

to emphasise is with regard to the future and the tremendous task in front of us. The one great word written upon the face of the past century was "Competition"; but the one great word to be written on the face of this century is "Combination." As co-operators, we have to make certain that the combination that succeeds is the combination which will serve the highest interests of the community for the common good. The Parliamentary Committee during the past four years have been engaged in a very strenuous task. It had before it one perpetual struggle in a certain direction. I want the Congress to recognise that almost all the good that has come to us has come to us through the influence of one man. That man is Mr. May. I am glad to bear testimony to his work and worth during a strenuous time. We have had our differences, Mr. May and I, but I have been very proud of his pilotage, and the thanks of the movement are due to him. I move the adoption of the report with the full conviction that though certain of our struggles are past there is business ahead of us for which we must get ready; but happy the men and the movement that have such principles as ours to propagate, for ultimately these principles are bound to prevail.

Mr. E. WHITELEY (Manchester and Salford): I would like to ask the Committee to take steps to secure a return showing the position of societies in regard to income tax under schedule A and B. Co-operative organisations in Manchester are paying £39,000 per annum under these schedules.

Mr. P. S. NEIL (Luton): I should like to know if any information received by Sir Thomas Allen behind the scenes will be published in book form so that we will know what has been going on. The rank and file ought to know these things.

Mr. J. JOHNSTON (North-Western Section): Co-operative societies will have a great deal to do with the solution of the housing question. Under the present Act a number of societies will be entitled to be considered as utility societies under the schemes. Retail societies themselves should not undertake housing schemes, for the price of materials is such that it is impracticable to build houses at present and get a decent return, seeing that timber is five times the pre-war price, and bricks and labour twice the price. I want to suggest that you should use every effort to press your local authorities. They are able to do this housing work and you should press them to go on with the work, and send representatives to see that the work is carried out in a proper way, and without delay. Another thing I want to suggest is that the productive co-operative societies—the wholesales and the independent productive societies—have a duty to build houses to house their own workpeople. In regard to the houses to be built, I would have them with air and light all round, and only one storey high. I am strongly opposed to having any more than 12 houses to an acre.

Mrs. S. KELLY (Woolwich): I would like to ask if the Committee have ever thought of bringing before the co-operators the insanitary state of the houses already built. We hear so many times of the houses for heroes to come back to. In one borough, the houses as it is—and these houses are

not slums, but houses costing 15s. and 16s. a week—have not had any paint or a white-wash brush in them for ten years. These were not fit for heroes to come home to. It is scandalous. The propertied classes state they have been badly treated during the war; so have the tenants. What is the good of having healthy babies in insanitary houses? We are beginning at the wrong end. Let us make the houses clean that are already built before we go on to others. That would be work for the unemployed.

Mr. P. J. AGNEW (Scottish Section): I think it would be a great pity if this Congress parted on Wednesday without having said something at one of the most critical periods in the history of housing reform. This Congress must be aware, as the whole country is aware, that the housing problem has reached a most acute stage. I venture to say that one of the serious—one of the fundamental—causes of the unrest that will ultimately come to this country will be the detestable housing conditions in the country. You are being lulled into a state of satisfaction because you see passing through the House of Commons Housing Bills—one for England and one for Scotland. In the last sixty years you have passed upwards of seventy Housing Bills, and the problem remains where it was when housing reform began. The present Bill before Parliament is suggesting public utility societies, and, as Alderman Johnston pointed out, if public utility societies take upon themselves the responsibility of housing schemes they are doing so at the most difficult period the country has been faced with. The Government are not in earnest about the housing question. And the sooner this Congress tells them so the better for the Government. They have laid down a two years period in which the local authorities were to solve the problem, the slum dens wiped out and new houses erected. That is impossible in two years, and the Government know it. It is through agitation on the part of public authorities that they are extending the period to three and a-half years. The Government are recognising and believe that it is the ultimate duty of private enterprise, when we have got to the period of settlement, to go into housing again. That is the cause of all the trouble. They are holding up the local authorities with scores of points of order with regard to schemes. Personally, I have been trying to get through a local housing scheme for the past six months, and found it impossible because of the barriers raised by the Local Government Board. The real obstacle is not in the local authority but in the studied and deliberate indifference of the present Government.

Mr. T. COOPER (Hyde): I would like to emphasise the last point made by the previous speaker. It appears to me to be an evident and certain fact that the Government is not in earnest in regard to this question. Local authorities are interfering with our local housing committees, to the apparent benefit of private enterprise. I want to put this point, that I believe it is possible for local housing committees to do this work to the advantage of the community. I think this Congress ought to send to the Government a very strong protest against the evident and palpable delay that is going

on in connection with this matter. Local housing committees should be encouraged in their work, and not be hampered by district and town councils, the majority of whose members are property owners. I think we should also urge the Government to see that the materials for housing are obtainable as soon as possible.

Mr. J. M. BIGGAR (Milngavie): In my opinion the Government is shirking this question of housing by foisting it upon other people. If it was in real earnest, it would do what we want it to do, that is, make the housing of the people a national question; and if the Government would do that I am prepared to offer anything that in a generation, instead of a C 3, we should have an A1 population. The Government knows that in devolving its responsibility on the elected bodies, the local authorities, it is well rid of the question. We all know what happens when a town council prepares schemes; everybody is gulled by the cry that this will be so much more on the rates paid by the people. I favour a strong resolution on the matter. So far as public utility societies are concerned, I hope no one in this Congress will think that the terms offered these societies by the Government will help one jot towards solving the housing problem, for their only effect will be to double rents.

Mr. F. ATHAY (Blaina): Another subject closely allied to the housing question is the provision of houses in mining districts. It is possible for the Parliamentary Committee to use their influence in support of Mr. Brace's Bill now before the House of Commons dealing with compensation for subsidence to houses in mining districts?

Mr. F. G. GILLINGHAM (Bristol and Somerset District Association): We are told it is necessary to have 300,000 houses erected, to put us on a par with what we should have had but for four years of war. Evidently someone has anticipated opposition from the Labour Party, judging by the report. I must compliment Mr. Agnew on his spirited speech just now, which appealed to everybody in the Congress. It is up to us to endeavour to get into touch with the Labour Party so as to get the best terms. The industrial people—co-operators and trade-unionists—are not in a position to buy the houses in which they live, and parties have been evicted through someone buying the houses over their heads. That is why I think every co-operator and trade-unionist should own his house. Now with regard to plans, I submit to you that, with a combination of the architectural skill that can be found among co-operators and trade-unionists, we can produce something far and away better in plans than can the Local Government Board. I know that on the Duchy of Cornwall estate they have built houses in which you can scarcely swing a cat round without striking its head against the wall. What must be safeguarded in this country is the health and the stamina of the people.

Mr. D. MCCARTHY (Leicester): We can congratulate the Government on the splendid way in which it has looked after the interests of the rich and neglected the poor. I venture to say that there are men on the plat-

form and in the body of the hall to-day who would support the capitalists to-morrow. As a trade-unionist, a socialist, and a co-operator, I say you are not sincere to yourselves. In the town where I come from the builders and the capitalists are all in the majority; and co-operators will vote for those people against people selected from our own ranks. If we are sincere as co-operators and trade-unionists we are sufficiently strong numerically to govern every large town in England. It is no use blaming the Government. You have the power and the vote to kill all evil if you will only use it. You will get no good from Parliament. I say it is a waste of time to go, year after year, to the Trades Union Congress, and parade always on the side of good, if our actions, when it comes to the vote, are always on the side of evil.

Mr. H. J. MAY (hon. member, Southern Section), in replying for the committee, said: Mr. Whiteley asks if we are getting returns regarding our liabilities under schedules A and B. The answer to that is that Mr. Whitehead had sent out three circulars to the societies to obtain this information for the use of the special committee. Up to the present a very large number have not replied or attempted to supply the information. The next question was by Mr. Neil, of Luton, who asks whether it is the intention of the co-operative representatives, or the Parliamentary Committee, when the Consumers' Council has finished its work, to publish the confidential information they have obtained in their advisory capacity. I have only to repeat the question in these terms to show that it is quite impossible for the Parliamentary Committee to comply with that request. So far as the general proceedings of the Ministry are concerned, which are the main things, if you look at the *Daily Herald* and the Glasgow weekly paper you will find a good deal. Mr. Athay, of Blaina, asks whether the Parliamentary Committee will support Mr. Brace's Bill dealing with compensations for subsidences. It will receive the support of the Committee. Mrs. Kelly asks if we have dealt with the question of insanitary houses; but I would respectfully suggest that the Parliamentary Committee have no direct responsibility in that matter. With regard to the Public Utility societies, we have taken steps to influence the Government departments particularly concerned in order to secure that, within the limits of the Bill, co-operative societies, without re-registration (as they are already registered under the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts), and without becoming separate organisations, be recognised as Public Utility societies.

The Parliamentary Committee's report was adopted at this stage; various resolutions attached to the report being left over until Tuesday morning; and after some announcements had been made the Congress rose for the day.



SECOND DAY OF CONGRESS.

TUESDAY, 10th JUNE, 1919.

MORNING SITTING.

The PRESIDENT, on taking the chair, said : I have the pleasure to wish all a very good morning. I hope our deliberations will be as harmonious as on the first day, and that we will proceed to discuss the various items in the same spirit as animated the discussion yesterday. We are commencing at the resolution submitted by the Parliamentary Committee, on Food Control.

Mr. W. T. CHARTER (Southern Section) was then called upon to move:—

That, in view of the great services rendered during the war to all the nations by organised co-operation, which has proved itself to be the best means of securing the equitable distribution of necessities at reasonable prices, this Congress calls upon the British Government to take all necessary steps to secure the continuance and extension of the application of the co-operative principle to its plans of economic reconstruction ; and, further, that the reforms automatically secured by the operation of D.O.R.A.—especially those relating to sales by net weight or measure, standards, and tests of quality, exhibition of prices—should at once receive permanent legislative sanction.

He said: I do not think there is any need for me to read the resolution for you to grasp what the Parliamentary Committee is asking for. You heard the report of Sir Thomas Allen and the reply of Mr. May. The whole

policy of the Parliamentary Committee right throughout the food control has been to do its level best to secure to the movement equality of treatment. Believe me it has not been an easy position. Those of us who have had the opportunity of sitting on the various Government committees have found up against us all the time and every time every vested interest that has been closely allied to that particular article of which we were trying to exercise some control. We asked that the co-operative principle and system, which has been of such value in the food control during the last three or four years, might be continued. When I tell you that even the Government departments recognised that the co-operative movement, through its own organisation and statistical department, was able to supply more valuable information than any set of traders could possibly do, you will realise that we were justified in asking that the Government should extend to the co-operative movement the whole of the food control of the country. Our policy, all the way through, has been to see that the interests of the consumers were paramount. We have no object to serve except to safeguard the interests of our members and the consumers generally. We have forced, through the influence of the movement and the backing you have given to the Parliamentary Committee, certain measures of reform which we contend have been and will be of very great and lasting importance to the whole of the consumers. It is one of the first principles of the co-operative movement that it should be the medium through which goods should be produced and sold pure and unadulterated; and we have used our influence under the Defence of the Realm Regulations to see that goods were sold at net weight and contained the ingredients they were supposed to contain. We have everything to gain and nothing to lose by the extension of these principles. You have only to turn to the Co-operative Wholesale Society and to see the fight they had to put up in the question of net weight in tea. It would have meant thousands of pounds to the Wholesale Society if they had sold the tea with the paper-weight included. But we always set ourselves out against that, and I submit that what is good for the co-operative movement is good for the whole of the consuming public. We ask you to give us your authority to press the Government, so that these reforms in food control may be lasting. We are asking that certain measures that have become matters of law during the war may be permanent. Some of us are aware of some of the irritations caused by the control of food. In my opinion we are going to be up against a food position within the next year that is going to be equally as bad, if not worse, than the position during the war. At the present moment we have a partial demobilisation of food control and what is the result? We are getting back slowly but surely to the position of things when only persons with a large income can procure the necessities of life. We insist that, until such times as supplies are sufficient and regular, control must remain an established institution with us if we are to avoid the unrest which will come if de-control comes too quickly. Unless we are extremely careful with the people who are clamouring for de-control we shall be in the same position as we were in

when we were asking for control. We are asking that the co-operative system should dominate food control. You have everything to lose by de-control. In regard to weights and measures: take the matter of soap. It was not the co-operative movement that first introduced the 12 ounce packet of soap; it was the outside manufacturer; and it is these little things that may appear small in themselves, but which have far-reaching effects on co-operative trade, we need to see eliminated from our trading organisations. We want you to support us so that whatever may be the nature of the article sold its ingredients and weight must be declared; and let us have done with "camouflage" used in order to enable one set of people to take undue advantage of the bulk of the people who are ignorant of the articles which they buy. I think my appeal will be successful when I ask you to strengthen the hands of the Parliamentary Committee so that they can say that they have the backing of the organisations represented here, who, after all, are a tremendous number of the consumers of the country; and last, but not least, nothing will give more help than for you to give us your backing in your own localities. Back up this resolution by action and see that the co-operative trade is fostered, so far as you are able to foster it, and see that you take up your proper place and exercise your proper power and influence in the authorities under which we all live.

Mr. A. D. D. BANKS (Ashford), in seconding the resolution, said: As a member of a Food Control Committee one has reminiscences of the early fight to get representation there. One was out-numbered by the people who were seeking their own interest rather than the interest of the whole people. In supporting this resolution, it is up to us to see that food control is not demobilised, or we shall have a repetition of the things which occurred long ago when private interests secured trade whilst co-operators were standing outside their shops because they had not got their supplies. I support the resolution and compliment the Parliamentary Committee on adopting a bold attitude in upholding the Food Control.

Mr. S. F. PERRY (Birkenhead): I hope this Congress will support this resolution. Just prior to the close of the war Chambers of Commerce in all parts of the country were crying out for de-control. We have now seen the result of their policy. Whilst we in this country have had our difficulties in regard to Food Control we must recognise the fact that all other countries have been in a much worse position; and we are faced with the fact, too, that where there has been no control profiteering has existed even to a larger extent than in this country. I want, in supporting this resolution, to urge upon the Parliamentary Committee that unless steps are taken to see that countries have international co-operation in buying supplies, one-half the advantage is bound to be swept away.

Mr. J. EVANS (Cardiff): My experience of food control committees is that the members largely represent their own interests—vested interests, if you like. I know they are looking forward to their work coming to a close about the end of June. I think the trade union and the co-operative move-

ments ought to impress upon the Government that the consumers are not yet ready or ripe for the de-control of foodstuffs. I have great pleasure in supporting the resolution.

Mr. J. BARRY (Plymouth): I rise to support the resolution as one who has suffered from the wire-pulling which has gone on in the distribution of foodstuffs. May I point out an error which, in my opinion, has been committed by the Reception Committee in not inviting Mr. Roberts (Food Controller) to this Congress. Had Mr. Roberts been here, and seen the elite of the working classes assembled at this Congress, he would very soon have recognised the danger that underlies the undue influence which is being used against the co-operative movement. It is time we, as representing the working class community of Great Britain, awakened to our responsibilities; for, in my opinion, it is only when we do this shall we be able to force our demands on this weak Government. I would ask you, and pray to you, to stand on your feet, and demand what you want, and see that you get it.

Mrs. S. KELLY (Woolwich): As one of the members of the Food Control Committee at Greenwich I rise to support this resolution. When these committees were first formed, as a member of the Women's Guild, I wrote as many as twenty letters to the one at Greenwich asking to be put on in the interests of women, but they would not have me. At last they had to take me, much against their wish. I had to fight hard to obtain a seat on the committee, and I made it hot for them when I did get there. I am the only woman there against all those men who are watching their own interests. When all the private shops were able to supply their customers with as much bacon as they required, we in the co-operative movement were only able to obtain $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. a fortnight. I know they are looking forward to being demobilised in June. I hope we, as co-operators, are going to bestir ourselves on this food question, or else I am afraid we shall not get our fair share of the supplies available.

The PRESIDENT: I think we are all agreed about this resolution. Is it necessary, therefore, to take up any more time in discussing it? All in favour say "Aye." The "Ayes" have it.

THE MINISTRY OF FOOD.

Mr. W. E. DUDLEY (Co-operative Wholesale Society) moved the following resolution:—

That this Congress records its appreciation of the services rendered to the community by the Ministry of Food during the war. It recognises the enormous difficulties under which the Ministry has laboured, but views with grave concern the proposal to abolish the Ministry and to distribute its functions amongst the elder departments of the State. The Congress therefore strongly urges upon the Government the necessity of continuing the Ministry as a permanent Department charged with

the maintenance of proper and adequate supplies, and such other measures, essential alike in war or peace, as may be necessary to prevent profiteering and the exploitation of consumers.

He said : You have passed, with no uncertain sound, a resolution in favour of Food Control. If this had been put before you six months ago, you would not have passed it so readily ; but in consequence of the bitter experience you have had during the last few months, you have seen the necessity of holding on a little longer to Food Control. But what we really require is the kind of resolution I have the honour of moving. It shows, in synopsis, that you appreciate what the Ministry of Food has done for you during the war, and that you strongly urge the continuation of the Ministry as being essential alike in war and peace. Now you are in the position of having three authorities concerned with food ; first the Board of Trade, then the Local Government Board, and the Board of Agriculture. The Board of Trade merely look to the question of importation : they decide as to what should be done in this respect. And then we find the Local Government Board in a position of domination, dealing with one or two laws bearing on the quality of food. Then, in the third place, we have the Board of Agriculture, who deal with production. Your interests are in no sense respected by the Board of Agriculture. Your position is that "We want to increase production." The Board of Agriculture finds there is a consumer as well as a producer, and the two must go together. The gathering of food and its distribution are left to the profit-making section of the community. A workman likes to pay for what he contributes ; and we are not going to deny reasonable pay to those who do contribute. Nobody has had a voice in food distribution, except co-operators, up to now. The Government is as much responsible for your food supplies as they are for regulating wages, hours of labour, and housing. The pressure of trade interest and the influence of the press is most extraordinary. Think of it, we have the "Big Four," and we give them acknowledgment for being a Big Four, and trust they will be able to finish the task of producing a policy for the League of Nations. But they have not been able to hold together against the Press and the Food Controllers. These people have broken down, just as a block of snow slowly passes out when the great sun burst comes on. The Americans have got to provide for increasing population, and, at the same time, in Canada and the Argentine they are providing for the interests of great American trusts ; and we cannot have that broken down unless you have given staunch support to a resolution of this description. Let this Congress rise as one man, with his helpmate, woman, alongside of him, and say "This has got to cease. Profit-making is not to be the order of the day." It does not mean rationing or coupons, but it does mean you should have a central authority termed the Ministry of Food, where you will have a chance of having your rights respected and not be fleeced by a body of people who are living on us, and who are not out to provide for us at all.

What is the use of asking for an advance of wages and an improved standard of life, but never getting it because other people come along and take away with one hand what you get from them with the other? What served you well during the period of war can give you increasing confidence.

Mr. R. HALL (Heckmondwike) seconded the resolution. People, he said, are going out from this country to France and Sweden and Norway representing the trusts in America. They had lost two grocery buyers in his society during the last twelve months, and because of that the ordinary committee-man had had more experience than in ordinary times. Many classes of goods will be controlled by syndicates unless they got some measure of control by such means as the resolution proposed. He hoped the resolution would pass and the Government not weaken in its fight against the trusts which are out to profiteer on the food of the people.

Mr. G. A. McEWEN (Stockton): Neither of these resolutions on Food Control will give us the measure of justice we are entitled to. You have carried one resolution with acclamation. You have listened to the proposer and seconder of this resolution, who tell us this does not involve rationing. Are you satisfied that Government Control, apart from rationing, will free us from disabilities? You have Government Control in regard to coal. Is it satisfactory for co-operators? You have it in sugar. Was that satisfactory before rationing was introduced? You have passed a resolution which merely demands Government Control. That is not sufficient. You have it now in margarine and does it satisfy you? I hope the Parliamentary Committee will be awakened to the dangers that threaten the movement. Unless you realise the danger, the movement, instead of being extended, will be strangled.

Mr. W. F. STEWART (Leith Provident): I wish to move as an amendment that we delete the word "permanent."

The PRESIDENT: You cannot do that.

Mr. STEWART: Then I wish to ask the Parliamentary Committee to take the resolution back. The delegates do not know everything. Last year we were up against the difficulty of having to use a large proportion of grain that produced the lowest possible grade of flour. Some of it was unfit for making macaroni, some of it was only suitable for pig feed and poultry feed. Protests were being made by the Liverpool millers and by other millers; and protests have been made by the co-operative movement. We have no more say in this matter than the man in the moon. What is wanted is that we co-operators should take advantage of our own machinery and get facilities for taking advantage of it. As a consumer talking to consumers I protest against the depreciation of the value of the foodstuffs of the people. It is public property that, while the people here have had to put up with all sorts of things in their flour, four or five million tons of choice Canadian grain have gone over the border into the United States. If I were speaking as a miller I could speak for all the millers in the country; but I am speaking as a consumer. The control on this

important article should be done away with on the shortest possible delay. The committee would be well advised if they would take back their resolution. There is a wheat expert buying for the Government; but they tell us to shut our eyes and open our mouths and take what they give us.

Mr. W. J. ROGERS (Northampton): I want to raise a protest against the hesitancy of the resolution and of the terms of the speech with which Mr. Dudley moved it. What is the use of passing a resolution of this kind and sending it to a Government that on its first inception, by the Chancellor of the Exchequer's action, recognised the greatest inequity that could possibly be recognised by causing excess profits to be put on the foodstuffs? What is the good of sending it to them, for they encourage these people to rob us so that they can take it back from them by taxation? Mr. Dudley said we have no objection to people having a fair profit. I say every working class organisation—co-operative movement, labour movement, trade-union movement—must knock that silly idea on the head. We want the whole control of distribution of foodstuffs in the interests of the people and to allow no private interest to come in and take profit out of it. It may have been the atmosphere that these gentlemen have been in that makes them so tender to the interests of the Government. I believe, Mr. Dudley believes also, that you cannot justify from any standpoint, a political economy which holds that any part of a community has a right to the necessities of life to make a profit out of them. I want Congress to assert that we demand free open access to the necessities of life, to own, control, and distribute them for our service and not for private individuals. I hope that the men at the head of the movement will get rid of their hesitancy. Let them know in this place where the atmosphere is, that the day is over for sending resolutions, and that we are going to surround them in Parliament until they put them on the Statute Book.

Mr. J. SHARPLES (Blackburn): I want some information from those on the platform. Has de-control amongst the allied countries come to an end? Has America declared that it has come to an end? Has united buying ceased? Have we recognised that there is a world shortage and that the central powers will be competing against the allied powers by breaking down what have been our safeguards? Is it suggested that the Ministry of Food should be the buyer of food or has it ceased buying and controlling the price and distribution? I hope we shall have a full statement of the facts, so that we will know the position from those who are actually working on the question and can warn us.

Mr. S. KEMP (Wigston Hosiers) supported the resolution. I am afraid, he said, it has been somewhat misunderstood by those who have suggested alterations in it. This resolution suggests that wherever rationing is the best method of dealing with any commodity that method should be adopted. Those of us who have had some experience are not anxious to continue rationing whenever we have a sufficient supply without, because it involves a great deal of trouble and extra labour. The resolution suggests that the

Ministry of Food should be kept and used to prevent profiteering and exploitation of consumers. It makes that department responsible for measures to secure our proper food supplies. Mr. Rogers was not so afraid of the atmosphere, because if things had gone well he would have been in the House of Commons to-day. Let us be reasonable. A resolution of this character will give us the security of a full control by a Government department of the food supplies, with responsibility for these supplies being properly secured and brought to the consumers.

Sir T. W. ALLEN (Co-operative Wholesale Society director and vice-chairman of the Consumers' Council): I rise to answer the questions put by Mr. Sharples. The problem of food control has followed us into peace, and is going to follow us for many years to come. Food control during the war was a necessity and I think you will agree it was eminently successful. The reason this success was not complete is because control commenced two years too late and we of the Parliamentary Committee are of the opinion that it is ceasing two years too soon. Mr. Dudley has told you that what he called the Big Four—England, America, France, and Italy—associated together for the purpose of collective buying, could not hold together even before peace came, owing to the operations of vested interests, or trusts. There is no system of inter-allied buying now; and while in the days preceding the war London was the market of the world, New York is that market to-day. America to-day has in her treasury practically all the gold that is available. She is able to go into all the markets of the world. She can buy the produce of the world for cash and hold it until such time as nations like ourselves are able to produce goods in payment. She can harness the commodities of the world to herself and make us go to her when we want to purchase. We are faced with two alternatives: either we must have Government control for many years to come or we must have trust control. We are strong as a consumers' organisation, but it is useless to think that the co-operative organisation is strong enough to resist the trusts. I urge upon you the necessity of passing this resolution this morning.

Mr. DUDLEY, in replying to the discussion, said: I have the greatest respect for the several speakers who raised a note of objection against the establishment of a Ministry of Food. Mr. McEwan was attempting to read into my words what was never intended. You have had quite sufficient of rationing; you have had sufficient of coupons. If there is no abundance of food you must be rationed, but we are out for an abundance of food. The fruits of the world are at the disposal of the people. You would have had your food assured to you much more readily if you had your Ministry of Food operating instead of the powers I mentioned. The co-operative movement being behind the scenes does know something. We know more by being inside. I know very well that you have had put into your food, particularly amongst the cereals, what would not have been put in at any other time. But compare your cereals with those of other people and you will be glad you have done so well. I am not an aspirant for the House of

Commons. I hope you will not send "wild men of Borneo" to the House of Commons. No man is of any service in that House unless he has character. No man is of any service in that House unless he has ability. We do not want the man who orates under the public gas lamp. (Interruption).

Great disorder followed this last remark. There were loud cries of "Withdraw," "Order," "Chair," and protests of various kinds from all parts of the hall. Meanwhile the President continued to ring his bell and appeal to the delegates to allow him to speak. It was several minutes before the uproar abated sufficiently for him to make any remark. Eventually there was a short lull, and the PRESIDENT said: If you will let Mr. Dudley finish his sentence and if there is anything offensive I will then ask Mr. Dudley to withdraw.

Mr. DUDLEY then attempted to continue, but the disturbance was immediately renewed.

The PRESIDENT again made attempts to restore order, but it was some minutes before he could be heard. Finally, he said: I do not think it is at all creditable to our Congress to have scenes of this character. My experience has been that we are always prepared to hear, whether we agree or not. If any speaker is guilty of making any observations which are outside the realms of fair debate, then I think you may rely on me asking him to withdraw or retract his statement. Now, I ask you to allow Mr. Dudley to complete his reply to the discussion. If there is any sentence uttered that reflects on anyone in any way, I shall not be afraid to ask him to withdraw or retract.

There was another loud chorus of "Withdraw" and tumult reigned for a little while. Eventually, however, the Chairman secured order and Mr. Dudley resumed his remarks.

He said: I do not know what all the excitement is about. I have been on my feet some time, and as a loyal co-operator I claim my right to address this audience. I have the greatest respect for any man who has warmly expressed himself in public, no matter where it be. But my point is, when you go to people who can play you off in a variety of ways, you have to go with a solid front, and, if they will not hear you, then you have to go back and tell the people what you told them originally. We have had to work within the Ministry of Food as well as in other places and prove ourselves; and we claim that the establishment of the Ministry of Food is essential. ("No! No!")

The delegates would not allow Mr. Dudley to proceed, and he eventually resumed his seat.

Mr. McLEAN, still standing, claimed the attention of the Chairman, amid loud cries of "Vote."

The PRESIDENT: I am sure you desire this Congress to be conducted according to Standing Orders and in the proper form. The Standing Orders provide that the mover shall have the right to reply, after which the resolu-

tion shall be put to the vote. We have arrived at that stage and I propose to take the vote. Mr. McLean has no right to make a speech.

Mr. McLEAN: I am rising to a point of order, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Dudley has made a statement which can only be taken as a slight or slur.

The CHAIRMAN: What is your point of order? Every delegate has the right to rise to a point of order, but in doing so he has not the right to make a speech.

Mr. McLEAN: I am stating a point of order. Mr. Dudley has made reference to men who stand under the gas lamp. I consider that reference—and from the reception it received I should say a large number of delegates agree with me—to be a slight on the men who have done good work. I am asking Mr. Dudley, as a gentleman, to withdraw any slight or insinuation contained in those words.

The CHAIRMAN: That is not a point of order.

Mr. Dudley rose from his seat, but at the suggestion of the Chairman sat down again.

The CHAIRMAN: I am sure Mr. Dudley would be the last person to cast any reflection on the people who have done good work beneath the gas lamp. Had what Mr. Dudley said about orators and gas lamps been a reflection, it would have been a reflection upon the President of Congress as well as upon many delegates in this hall.

The resolution was adopted, only one or two delegates expressing disapproval.

SONS OF TEMPERANCE.

The PRESIDENT: I have a telegram addressed to the Co-operative Congress at Carlisle. It is as follows:—Sons of Temperance in Session assembled send heartiest greetings and best wishes for a happy and useful session and much progress in the future. Davies, secretary, Weston-super-Mare. I take it that it is your desire that our General Secretary should suitably acknowledge this telegram, and send best wishes to the Sons of Temperance in conference assembled.

A BUDGET PROTEST.

Mr. A. B. WEIR (Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society) moved the following resolution:—

That this Congress strongly protests against the action of the Chancellor of the Exchequer in taking advantage of the present Budget to introduce the old bad principle of Protection under the guise of Imperial Preference, and calls upon the Government to institute a full inquiry into our fiscal system, in order to secure the freest possible exchange of commodities the world over, and as a means of establishing an enduring peace.

He said: No doubt this is the old bad system of protection coming up again. This old rascal has appeared before the electors of the country

in many forms. It is like a modern Joseph, coming forward in a coat of many colours. It has appeared as Tariff Reform, Fiscal Reform, Retaliation, and Reciprocity. It's "the same auld soo wi' a diff'rent snoot." In November, 1910, when the House of Lords challenged the will of the people, as expressed by the Commons, Mr. May issued an appeal to British co-operators. That was Mr. May's ultimatum before we thought of taking part in politics. One of Mr. May's famous "Fourteen Points" was this question of Free Trade *v.* Protection. In that circular he pointed out that, from time to time, Congress had passed strong resolutions in favour of the maintenance of Free Trade, not only as an economic principle, but as an essential to commercial and industrial prosperity, and also as one of the best guarantees of international amity, which our movement has done so much to promote. The ways of the Government are past finding out. We have adopted in principle one of Wilson's Fourteen Points, namely, the establishment of uniform commercial conditions by all nations agreeing to peace and uniting to secure its maintenance. Again, he says, "Good faith is the basis of trade." At the Paris Conference a new fiscal policy for co-operators was outlined, one which was based on mutual trust between nations, on the mutual interest of all peoples in the League of Nations, which means the practical application of the principles of co-operation in international trade and commerce. As a movement we do not approve of insular trading. We desire Britain to be a free market of the world. True, we may have difficulty with America having the control of the purse strings, but I do not think it is beyond the genius of the British nation to find a way out. We want products and the harvest of every country without distinction of race or colour. The earth and the fulness thereof is for the free use of all people. Free trade is the policy, the fiscal policy, which has made Great Britain what it is. It is the only sure way towards peace for the nation. The contrary path has ever been the way of conflict and strife. A tariff war has always been the prelude to a war for markets. Let co-operators say to the Government, "We will have none of it." It can be preached from the lamp-posts and the house-tops that the co-operative movement stands for the Parliament of Man and the Federation of the World.

The resolution was seconded from the body of the hall.

Mr. T. HENDERSON (Kinning Park): I desire to ask if this resolution is the result of the deliberation of the Board after hearing the report of the delegates at the Inter-Allied Co-operative Conference in Paris? Are we getting the official document in the shape of this resolution?

Mr. H. J. MAY: The question relates to the proceedings of the Inter-Allied Co-operative Conference held in Paris in February, for which the Parliamentary Committee is in no way responsible and with which they had no direct or indirect connection. The resolution is not intended as an official confirmation of the policy of the co-operative movement, but as a re-declaration of its traditional policy, in view of the menace to that policy by the Chancellor of the Exchequer doing what Mr. Balfour recognises he is entitled

to do—looking after his friends. The force of the present century, in distinction to that of the last century, is a force of combination; and what this resolution tries to assert is that the character of that force has got to be the determination of co-operators in this and other countries. The policy of Imperial Preference which the Chancellor has adopted in his Finance Bill means that he has taken one of the strongest steps towards securing combination, but combination not of co-operation but of Capitalism and Imperialism. Even if our fiscal policy is being put into the melting-pot, we have a right to ask the Government to give our policy a fair chance, and to give us a chance as a movement.

RECONSTITUTION OF THE JOINT PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE.

(See Report 23, page 181.)

Mr. W. H. WATKINS (South-Western Section), speaking for the Standing Orders Committee, when the paragraph in the Report dealing with the Reconstitution of the Joint Parliamentary Committee was reached, said: The Central Board wish Congress to agree to the discussion upon this being deferred. Subsequently, a resolution is to be submitted by the Survey Committee asking you to agree that their report be deferred for consideration until some time early in the next year. Closely associated with the Survey Committee's report is the question of the Parliamentary Committee. In the event of your not adopting the Survey Committee's proposal, the Standing Orders Committee will then ask you to come back to Section 23 of the report.

The PRESIDENT: Do you agree to postpone this meanwhile? ("Agreed!")

NATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE REPRESENTATION COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

(See Report 24, page 182.)

Mr. WATKINS submitted the report of the National Co-operative Representation Committee. He said: This is the youngest of our Co-operative Union Committees. Although it is as yet only a bantling, it has been taken through a very severe test of its capacity within the past few months. No sooner had it got into the saddle than it was put upon its mettle and sent to win its spurs. I think you will agree that if it has not won both spurs it has won one. A feature of the report is that, at the first time of asking, the co-operative movement scored. One candidate in ten was returned to Parliament; we nearly had a second—Mr. Biggar was only beaten by 100 votes. That, at a time when there was such a flood of reaction as the country had never before experienced, is an achievement. The experience the committee gained during the election will be invaluable in the future. One thing we have learned is that the ordinary organisation of our movement lends itself excellently to election purposes. The organisation for the supply of our daily needs can be easily adapted, when required, to the

supply of representation in Parliament and on local governing bodies. Since the General Election we have, through our local councils, returned some 27 co-operators to county councils, something over 200 to urban district councils, and nearly 100 to boards of guardians. This proves to us as a committee, and it may prove also to you, that the co-operative societies throughout the country really mean business in this question of adequate representation in Parliament and on local governing bodies. Another thing we ascertained was that our ordinary thrifty habits can also be applied to the purposes of an election. You will find that the average cost of running a Parliamentary election so far as the co-operative candidates were concerned was the lowest shown by any party.

Mr. J. MELLOR (Blackley): If we are to have brains in the co-operative movement we must be able to pay for services. Men have applied for positions as organisers and have had to refuse them because the wages were so small. If you do not pay for the brains you want you will not get any. You had one candidate in ten elected and that might be all right for the beginning, but organisation for political action must be attended to thoroughly and properly. You cannot do that without proper pay for efficient service.

Mr. J. CAREY (Mossley): When our society agreed to go in for politics there was the usual number at the meeting, but when we were organised for political action we were able to pack a hall this size. At the Society's meeting there was a big turnout because of the political aspect coming up, and a large turnout of those who had formerly been Liberals and Conservatives, yet there was a majority.

Mr. U. M. HARDY (Blaydon): I ask what steps are being taken to carry out the recommendations of this meeting. We Labour men and Socialists gave valuable support to co-operative members, but co-operative committees were working for the Coalition candidates and helping to defeat the Labour candidates. I ask the members of the Congress to carry out our recommendations honestly. To me there is no difference between socialism and co-operation. Co-operation is only another name for socialism and socialism another name for co-operation. The pioneers of co-operation were Socialists. It was a Socialistic ideal and they gave it the name of "Co-operation." If you had supported the Labour candidates consistently we would have had about 400 members in Parliament. We want you as co-operators to come into the Socialist ranks.

Mr. W. ROBINSON (Leadgate): We hear about the unity of trade-unionism and co-operation; yet in constituencies where there was no direct representative of co-operation, but where the trade-unionists had organised themselves together and chosen a man, we had the spectacle of the *Co-operative News* coming out with a paragraph recommending a gentleman who was a Liberal against the trade-unionist and co-operator. Where are the trade-unionists who are not co-operators? There are co-operators who are not trade-unionists. It is no use this Congress passing resolutions about

united forces, if, when trade-unionists have taken action, the official organ of the co-operative movement, the *Co-operative News*, recommends you to vote for "so and so and so and so." It is no use supporting the capitalist because he is a "canny" fellow or because he appears on the platform of the Co-operative Congress. Do you suggest for one moment that out of the 400 capitalists in Parliament there are not brains and ability amongst them? They have got the brains and the ability all right, but they have not got the co-operative ideals. They are promoting their own class interests against the working classes and we should consider our position before recommending these people.

Mr. A. J. EVANS (Llanelli): In local representation we ought to further our efforts. The new Education Bill affords a splendid opportunity for the co-operative movement. There is a clause authorising employers to provide schools, and the co-operative movement should provide schools also. We should further our efforts not only nationally but locally on our local councils.

Mr. J. DAVISON (Northern Section): There is a feeling among the Labour Party in particular that co-operators are not quite in harmony with them. Whilst they have been endeavouring to elect members to Parliament they have not had the sympathy of co-operators. As co-operators and trade-unionists we should break down the prejudice which seems to exist between us. I acted as chairman for a candidate for Parliament who was a Labour representative, and I did so for this reason: Looking over the Labour programme I found they were trying to push co-operation by every means in their power. Our interests—Labour and co-operation—are one; how they can be separated I cannot understand.

Mr. A. H. JONES (Midland Section): Mr. Dudley wanted men of character, and not men "under the lamp-post." I am in the list of the next Parliamentary candidates, and can say my character will stand alongside of Mr. Dudley's or anybody else's. I ask you to adopt a sweet spirit of reasonableness and bring about unity between the man who is prepared to go outside and the one who wishes to go inside.

Mr. A. E. WATERSON, M.P. (Kettering): I believe that the differences spoken of as between trade-unionist forces, the Labour movement, and ourselves are more apparent than real. You know when you look at the results that of the ten Parliamentary candidates you put forward only one was elected. He was elected because of the common agreement, because of the common understanding, the sinking of insignificant things for the larger principles that were at stake. The harmony that existed and the power and the influence exerted were exemplified in the remarkable majority which that individual secured as the result of united work. You have got to purify your homestead. Take your Leeds Central. There you had your own candidate with 2,146 solid co-operative votes! Is that the solid strength of Leeds Central? Evidently you are responsible, to a large extent, for the defeat of your own men. And what is true of Leeds Central no doubt can be applied to other constituencies also. Wherever you as co-operators

have co-operative candidates before you, it is your bounden duty to stand by your principles, both in season and out of season. I am prepared at all times to say a word for the cause of honesty and righteousness; and I am prepared to stand in any gathering, whether of this character or even when the gas lamp is above my head. It is for the principle of the thing. As to the question of organisation, I know nothing of the complaints of my friend who has proclaimed himself a Socialist. Some of us are proud to belong to that category. Do not blame the Council. It is your duty to go to these Congresses to wake people up to a sense of their responsibilities. Let me pay tribute to the organisers you have. I am not concerned with the price you pay. That is your responsibility. You can achieve remarkable results in organising the co-operative vote. Organise as Kettering has done, from a common-sense standpoint, then you will achieve a result, and send to the British Parliament not one representative, but others, like our friend Biggar, whose non-return at Paisley I regretted. See to it that in the next Parliament you are represented in proportion to your strength of four millions, and then you will be able to say you have done your duty, and not throw the responsibility on the Central authority.

Mr. R. SHARP (Pendleton): We ought not to depend upon the local Labour Party for their machinery to win elections. If you want machinery, it is up to the Parliamentary Representation Committee to see that every organisation is prepared to enter the political world sincerely. Is the Parliamentary Representation Committee limited in some respect as regards finance?

Mr. M. MELLOR (New Swindon): I think that while co-operators have assimilated the principles of trade-unionism, trade-unionists have not assimilated the principles of co-operation. I would like to have seen the Representation Committee calling for more organisers; and I believe the rank and file of the movement are quite anxious to be affiliated to the Labour Party.

Mr. L. G. CROSSLEY (Blackley): The Labour Party seem quite willing to do lip service with the idea of working together with the co-operative movement; but when we meet them to discuss a position they want their own way.

The PRESIDENT: The subject matter now being discussed should come on later on the resolution that has been sent in.

Mr. S. BLAKEBOROUGH (Burnley): I should like a word in reply to what has been said about the *Co-operative News*—

The PRESIDENT: The proper person to reply is the mover of the report.

Mr. F. G. GILLINCHAM (Bristol and Somerset District): What is the position of candidates?

The PRESIDENT: That shall be replied to.

Mr. WATKINS, in reply, said: We are asked if we are limited by finance. Of course we are. Provide it for us and we will get on with our work. We ought to use every legitimate means of getting our candidates into local

governing bodies and into Parliament. A complaint was made about our fixing the rate of pay so low that our organiser could not accept it. We did not fix it. We asked the applicants to fix their own rate of pay. The man to whom our friend refers fixed his own rate ; but he thought there was a chance of being appointed and he raised his rate. That was not co-operative business. We exercised all the legitimate influence we could, even upon the co-operative press. With regard to reciprocity between our own efforts and those of the Labour Party, let me say that we desire, ardently, a complete understanding. We are endeavouring to get that. Later, a resolution will be submitted which will indicate the way in which we think such an understanding may be reached. The fact that so many working people neither vote for Labour candidates nor for co-operative candidates is deplored equally by the Labour Party and by us. When the workers realise where their true political and economic interests lie there will be no misunderstanding between the Labour Party and the new Co-operative Party.

Mr. S. F. PERRY (Birkenhead) submitted the following resolution :—

That this Congress strongly approves of the principle of proportional representation in both Parliamentary and Local Government elections, and demands that, when municipal elections are resumed, the whole of each council shall vacate their seats and the new council be elected on the principle of proportional representation.

He said : So far as the National Committee are concerned, whilst we are full believers in democratic control and representative government, we feel that no system of government can gain the confidence of the people which does not provide ample opportunities for all sections of the community to be adequately represented. We feel that in our present electoral system there are great weaknesses which demand consideration, and our resolution lays down three points. We ask that proportional representation should be applied to Parliamentary and to local elections ; and we also ask that when municipal elections are resumed the whole of the councils shall retire and be elected on a proportional representation basis. I want to submit that, if we examine the returns of the last General Election, we have ample proof that our electoral system demands reconstruction. I want to remind you that five and a half million voters in contested elections in Great Britain supported the Coalition Government and returned 428 representatives to the House of Commons. I want also to remind you that four and a quarter million voters voted against the Coalition Government and yet returned just over 80 members. There are many friends here connected with the Labour Party. I want to remind you that every Labour member returned to the present House of Commons represents 48,000 voters. Every Coalition member returned represents 13,000. If the Labour Party, which polled two and a quarter million votes, had had a fair chance under proportional representation they would have had 200 representatives in the present House of Commons. Take our own co-operative candidates. With our 51,000

votes we only got one candidate returned; but under proportional representation we should have had at least three candidates. Under proportional representation you have a chance to adjust the present grievances. What is happening at the present time? Industrial workers are losing their faith in Parliamentary control and being forced into direct action. That way lies revolution. I want to submit that we should recognise that in our present constitution we have full opportunities to control national and local legislative machinery. I want to appeal to this Congress to help us to try and remodel this machinery so that all the community will have an equal share in controlling that machine. The whole matter is complicated. At Sligo, in Ireland, a municipal election has already been conducted on proportional representation and out of a voting list of 3,066 more than 73 per cent voted and no more than one per cent of the spoiled papers was due to the introduction of proportional representation. If an election can be carried out in Ireland under these circumstances, so can it be done in England and Scotland as well. Our friends in Scotland fought their education contests on the principle of proportional representation. As a "Sassenach" I deplore the apathy at that election, but it was in no way due to proportional representation. I appeal to Congress to accept this principle, that we introduce it into Parliamentary and local election, and give all members of the community a chance of representation.

Mr. ANEURIN WILLIAMS, M.P. (Haslemere): There does not seem to be any desire to discuss the matter because we all appear to be of one mind. As I have given a good deal of attention to this for a good many years, and as I represented this principle at the Speaker's Conference and made a hard fight for it, I would like to point out the difference it would have made to the co-operative movement now if the proposals which the Speaker's Conference put forward for proportional representation in our towns and densely populated districts had been carried out. Under proportional representation you would have been sure of a representative in every considerable town area with 30 per cent of votes. In Leeds, Bradford, Sheffield, London and all the big industrial areas you would have been sure of one representative, and the electorate would have had a choice of candidates. In all parties there is only one man of the party before the electorate, and they must vote for him or throw away their votes. Under proportional representation a man can choose the man he respects most in his party, so there is a much truer representation of the people. Mr. Perry points out how exaggerated is the Coalition proportion in the present authority. The present system is a matter of chance and it often happens that the minority of votes gets the majority of representatives. This happened in 1886, and in the United States the minority of votes in an election carried the majority of seats. The minority must be sure of minority representation, not more, not less, but just what it is entitled to. Even the man under the gas lamp has a right to be represented in Parliament and to voice his opinions and his aspirations. Proportional representation would give that to every shade of

opinion. I beg to second the resolution. It is a great principle for the readjustment of Parliament.

DERBY STUDENTS' MESSAGE.

The PRESIDENT read a telegram as follows :—"Students assembled at the Open-air School being held at Riber Hall, Matlock, jointly by Derby co-operators and the Derby Workers' Educational Association, send greeting to Congress and are happy to know that you have again international representation. May your deliberations result in the extension of International Co-operation and hasten the approach of the Co-operative Commonwealth. Mark Hewitt, secretary."

Mr. GALLACHER (Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society Director): I hope you will not accept this resolution without due consideration. The Labour Party have considered this principle at conference after conference, and have not yet decided to support it. That should give us pause. We are not quite so familiar with politics as the Labour Party are. (Question.) You may question it if you will, but the facts are on my side. The Liberals and Unionists did not agree with this until the emergence of a strong Labour Party. This has arisen because of the growing strength of Labour and co-operative representation. Do you want in the House of Commons a large number of groups of various political colours, or do you want to see on the one side the people who have and on the other side the people who have not? It is going to fill the House with little groups. It is going to divide the Labour Party and the people of this country. It is going to split us up among ourselves. It is going to turn the whole current of Labour and co-operative action into difficult channels. It induces you to vote for the colour or the party and takes away the personal element which is so large a factor in everything in this world. We must be careful before we pledge the movement to this new principle of voting. It will not, in my opinion, be for the benefit of co-operators or Labour people generally to go in for this. Have your people heard this fully discussed anywhere? ("Yes.") Have you seen it in operation? (A delegate: "Yes; Glasgow Education elections.") It has not been fully discussed and should be left over until we are in a better position to decide the point.

Mr. NEIL McLEAN, M.P. (Scottish Section): I am sorry, in a way, to be at variance with an old friend in the person of Mr. Gallacher; but I want to point out that all his fears in regard to proportional representation are fears he is conjuring up in going along the dark passages of his own lack of imagination. In Belgium, where proportional representation was in operation until the outbreak of the great war, political parties have not split up into the small groups which Mr. Gallacher fears will be the result here. He asks you to defer a decision until such time as you are more at home with it. I agree. If you do not understand what proportional representation is going to mean then you would be foolish to vote in favour of it. But you would be equally foolish to vote against it. In the election of the Glasgow

Education Authority the people were elected only this year under the system of proportional representation. That you did not get a larger number of co-operative candidates returned was not the fault of the principle; it was the fault of the co-operators themselves, who, had they voted aright, could have elected a full quota of co-operators. Why should a small group—if its interests are going to be vital to the nation—why should that small group be denied representation because it cannot get sufficient votes? The Labour movement was a small group. We were voted down time and time again. Had we had proportional representation in those early days, in many instances, we should have gained several seats throughout the country, and our strength would be to-day that of the full-grown man prepared to take for himself that to which he is entitled.

Mr. R. H. HOPE (Twerton-on-Avon): The question I wish to put to those moving this resolution is:—What effect will proportional representation have upon the duration of Parliament? My only objection to proportional representation is the possibility of frequent elections. I am not averse to the theory of it.

Mr. S. F. PERRY, replying to the discussion, said: The only real opponent to this question is our friend Mr. Gallacher, and if proportional representation had anything to do with his return to the educational authority of which he is now a member I am proud of it. But what I want to draw attention to is this, that a man in Mr. Gallacher's position should certainly know what the Labour Party has done. The Labour Party has already, in June, 1918, passed a similar resolution. The same resolution went through the Trades Union Congress in September, 1918, and through the Independent Labour Party, in April of this year. I want to submit that if democratic organisations like these can accept this principle, then we, as co-operators, can have a mind of our own and yet be determined to fight for justice for all sections of the community.

The resolution was adopted.

AGRICULTURAL CO-OPERATION.

The GENERAL SECRETARY: An emergency resolution, in accordance with Standing Orders, has been sent in by twenty societies on the subject of agricultural co-operation. Copies of the resolution will be placed in a prominent position in the Inquiry Office.

THE CONGRESS EXCURSION.

The PRESIDENT: The Reception Committee have been trying to arrange an excursion to Keswick on Thursday, but unfortunately the railway company is unable to provide the necessary accommodation. A train will, however, be running to Keswick on Thursday morning, and any delegates who desire to go to Keswick can, of course, travel by it.

The delegates retired at this stage for luncheon.

SECOND DAY OF CONGRESS.

AFTERNOON SITTING.

The first business at the afternoon session was the consideration of the following resolution on the new Democratic or People's Party :—

- (a) That this Congress, whilst recognising that the success attending the efforts made to secure direct representation in Parliament and on local governing bodies has fully justified the decisions of the Swansea Congress and the London Emergency Conference, yet believes that the time has arrived for the establishment of a closer relationship between all democratic organisations in the common interest. It, therefore, instructs the National Co-operative Representation Committee to negotiate with the Labour Party and Trades Union Congress Parliamentary Committee with a view to a federation for electoral purposes, and with the ultimate object of forming a United Democratic or People's Party.
- (b) This Congress also directs the Central Board to take the necessary steps to ensure adequate discussion by the movement of any proposals to this end, jointly agreed upon by the above-mentioned parties, before submission to Congress, and for such purpose to convene a special conference, or conferences, if found desirable.

Mr. S. F. PERRY, who moved the resolution, said : This is one of the most important resolutions before Congress. It lays down certain points. It says first of all, that the policy of the Swansea Congress has been fully justified. It also recognises that the time is now opportune for a closing of the ranks and for a unification of the democratic forces. It invites the Congress to empower the National Committee to enter into negotiations with the Labour Party and the Parliamentary Committee of the Trades Union Congress, with a view to a closer federation for electoral purposes, and with the object of obtaining one great united party. Above all, it lays down a principle that, whatever scheme might be submitted, it should have the full consideration of the rank and file, and be submitted to a special Congress, if necessary. I want to claim this afternoon that our policy of entering into politics has been fully justified by the results. If you turn to the pages of our report you will find there a list of co-operators who did remarkable work for our country, for the Allies, and probably for the whole world, during the war period. I want to remind you that it was not until our movement had definitely entered into politics that we got adequate representation on

Government committees; and the work of these men and women on those Government committees has, to my mind, fully justified co-operators entering politics. We want to go further. We claim that our one member of the House of Commons is a small beginning; but Mr. Waterson is a forerunner of many. If you look over the country, in every town and hamlet co-operators are organising for local and Parliamentary elections and societies are agreeing to give 1d. in the £ on their sales for local organisation purposes. Politics after all is a business: some men and women think it is a dirty game. All the more reason why co-operators should go into politics to make them cleaner. We have societies appointing full-time organisers to take up the political work. These men are putting into the work an enthusiasm rarely seen except in religious and idealistic movements. This zeal and ardour is leading the movement to a higher endeavour than ever before. We should indeed be blind leaders of the blind if we did not recognise the changing circumstances of the time. You were told yesterday, and you will be told again during the Congress, that the Coalition Government is composed largely of vested interests; and when you have a federation of British industries with 200 supporters in Parliament, then co-operators have a long way to go to get justice. On the other hand, we have seen that the policy of the Government in forming a Coalition, such as this at the last election, has brought together officially for the first time the two recognised political parties in our country. What some of us are hoping and praying for is that they will never be divided again. It brings this lesson: That if the democratic forces of the country are to achieve that higher share of life for which we are working, we shall have to recognise that we are a common people, all of one stock, all demanding a higher conception of life, all working for the same ideals. There are many men in this hall to-day who feel that affiliation with the Labour Party is the best solution of this problem. I do not believe that affiliation with the Labour Party is the best way out of the difficulty. The co-operative party has a distinct message of its own. We have to prove that what has been done to the advantage of a section can be well applied to the rest of the community. I am pleading this afternoon that you will empower us to enter into these negotiations to find a common meeting ground for those who, after all, are working together for a common end; and with this pledge, that, before any definite scheme can be accepted, it should be fully considered by sectional boards and perhaps at a special conference. After all the toil and tragedy of war comes the cry of the common people for a better standard of life. After all that France has gone through they find that to-day they are fighting a greater enemy than Germany: they are fighting misery. The new need has again proved the profiteers' opportunity. What we want to-day is to make the country fit for heroes to live in. I move the resolution of our committee.

Mr. J. MILLINGTON (Midland Section): There are a number of things pointed out in this report that we ought to bear in mind throughout all

our troubles. We can show our strength, sympathy, and friendship with Labour in a practical way. It is suggested in the report that competition will become keener now that the war is over. While we, as co-operators, have been talking, the vested interests have been working and planning and acting so that their interests are represented in Government by at least 200 members. Whatever their political label, these people have been sent there to represent those interests; and when it becomes a question of masters *v.* men, or Capital *v.* Labour, we find them on the side of their own particular interest. Whether we, as workers, call ourselves Labour politicians or desire to continue as a separate co-operative entity, we ought to recognise that we, as a movement, are large enough to stand on our own feet; that we have our own machinery and that we can create a political organisation second to none of the older political parties; and we should not let the Labour Party or any other usurp our position. Let us take the first opportunity of getting into tune with all our friends. Let us not wait till an election is here; but let us form a joint committee to consider candidates and constituencies, local and parliamentary. Let us agree not to fight each other but to fight on our own, avoiding wasting our strength fighting each other. We are strong enough and wealthy enough to have an organisation; and we have brains enough to create a political party of our own, to look after our own interests more especially and also those of the social forces we represent. Our programme is second to none. As an old trade-unionist I hold that we have been advocating through our Co-operative Congresses, for years, the social programme of the Labour Party.

The PRESIDENT: There is a resolution sent in by Bristol and other societies which may perhaps be taken at this stage as an amendment.

The amendment referred to was sent in by Bristol, Coleford, Frampton Cotterell, and Twerton co-operative societies, and was as follows:—

That this Congress, in view of the unsuccessful attempts made for securing direct representation for the movement in Parliament and on local governing bodies, is of the opinion that cohesion of forces and joint action with other progressive bodies is absolutely necessary in order that the whole voting power thereof may co-operate and be fully utilised in the future running of candidates. This Congress considers the time has arrived for affiliation with the National Labour Party and the linking up of local societies with the Labour Representation Committees in their respective districts. It, therefore, instructs the Central Board of the Co-operative Union Limited to take such steps as may be necessary to put into operation the terms of the above resolution.

Mr. S. C. POPE (Bristol), who moved the amendment, said: If we speak of the fusion of forces of the Labour movement, and the Labour Party is the political expression of organised Labour in this country, surely it is not necessary for us to create fresh machinery and fresh expenses when

one organisation, one set of machinery, and one set of expenses will serve. There are probably some delegates here who have not seen these difficulties. What we feel is that there never was a time when the necessity for one common united party was greater than at present. Your Political Representation Committee look to the ultimate creation of a People's Party. Well, "to-day is the day of salvation: now is the acceptable time." We have set up about 140 local committees and if the experience of other societies is the same as our experience in Bristol, the people who are on those committees are the people who are the most earnest and most enthusiastic workers in the Labour movement. If this be the case, how can we expect to make our best effort when the parties are divided? We set up machinery, take offices, and appoint organisers. We want the Congress to say that that sort of policy ought not to continue. You know the evil of everlapping, and here you are prepared to perpetuate in political action the evils you condemn in co-operative trading. There never was a greater necessity for the two classes to unite. Let us throw aside our timidity so that next year, when we meet at Bristol, we may recognise that we have solidarity. The Labour Party is an organised party prepared to support our claims. We have the "sympathy" of persons connected with their parties; but when it comes to a question of voting you have to depend not upon individuals but upon parties; and there is only one organised party in the House of Commons prepared to support our point of view.

Mr. R. H. HOPE (Twerton-on-Avon): I have pleasure in seconding. I have taken an interest in political and social matters for the past fifty years. I have watched the growth of the Labour Party from the time when Joseph Arch fought and sacrificed himself. It is a long time since then. I have watched the Labour movement grow, always with the idea of seeing in the House of Commons a magnificent party representing Labour. I have been a co-operator as long as I have been a trade-unionist, that is thirty-seven years; and I must confess that when the question first came to the front I was not enamoured of the idea. If co-operators are going to enter upon political action they must enter through direct affiliation with the Labour Party, who have carried on the political fight for the last sixty years. It is said the co-operative movement is strong enough to stand on its own. That is a contradiction of the title of co-operation, because you should co-operate for political action as you do for things of daily life. So I must ask you to support this amendment, because although we are a large number of people we are only one stick in the bundle.

Mr. F. JENNINGS (Pendleton): It is far from courteous to the co-operative political effort at the last General Election to move such an amendment, in so far as it says "in view of the unsuccessful attempts." The co-operative political party was the only party that fought the General Election and did not forfeit any of its £150 deposits. I want to point out that if we have to join a political party because of the length of its existence, then it is not the Labour Party we shall have to join but one of the other parties. We

are asked to affiliate with the Labour Party because of their programme. I am prepared to say that the programme which is based on the fundamental principles of the co-operative movement is the finest political programme before the country to-day. What is the alternative? It is a programme largely based upon the victory of class. I recognise a selfish class in this country who too long have reigned. But, after all, class domination is not the best in the interests of the nation. Our co-operative policy seeks not to secure class domination. The object of the co-operative commonwealth is to draw all people into one class.

A Voice: What about indifference?

Mr. Jennings: Yes, but the stumbling block has not been so much indifference but enthusiasm with too much zeal and too little knowledge.

Mr. E. O. GREENING (London Bookbinders): Some of you at all events know and will remember the position in which I stand as regards political action by the co-operative movement. After the great majority which voted for political action at the Swansea Congress, I promised, so far as I was concerned, that political action by the co-operative movement should have a fair and free and full trial, and I think I have kept my promise. I have watched with keen interest what has been done, and I wish still to keep that promise. But this amendment raises an entirely new issue; it proposes the practical absorption of the co-operative movement into the Labour Party. Now my view of the matter is that the co-operative movement is too big a thing to be absorbed by any political party. It is more than a section, it is more than a party, and it is more than any creed; it is the harmonising principle of humanity, and it has a platform on which men of all creeds, of all opinions, can meet together to work harmoniously for the upliftment of the great masses of the people. If you adopt this amendment it will be said of you what one of our poets said of a famous British statesman, that he "narrowed his mind, and to party gave up what was meant for mankind." That will be the verdict upon the co-operative movement if it adopts this amendment. If you allow yourselves to be absorbed by, or tied to any political party, you will find yourselves pledged to support many measures which that party adopts, but which you, as co-operators, would never think of supporting. Take for example the drink problem as it figures in the programme of the Labour Party. I am a life abstainer and an ardent teetotaler. The Labour Party proposes to solve the drink problem by allowing the Government to enter into the drink trade, buying up breweries and public-houses throughout the country, and making them Government or municipal property. The Chancellors of the Exchequer of the future would have so great an interest in, and dependence upon that particular trade that they would not see their way to aid in any diminution in the drinking of intoxicating liquors. I believe that would be so great a disaster for this country that no candidate who came before me and favoured the nationalisation of the drink traffic should have my vote. That, too, would be the feeling of a great many temperance men who form

a large and I hope not unimportant section of the co-operative movement. I beg you to consider before you take this step of affiliation. I esteem many members of the Labour Party for their enthusiasm, but let us keep ourselves free from and above political parties. We have our own aims and ideas. Let us be content to do our work in our own way, instead of making ourselves the allies of any particular party.

Mr. S. W. MOULE (Stratford): I have been rather amused whilst listening to some of the speakers regarding the political position, and when they say they have been in the political movement and the trade-union movement for about thirty-seven years I cannot understand what they have been doing. The success we have achieved at West Ham in local administrative councils has been won by street-corner oratory. We have two political organisations at work; one, the I.L.P., and the other, the N.S.P., and when we looked at the different wards for our members to contest we were able to come amicably together, with the result that we hold the reins of office in our own local administrative council. I want to ask you, do you really think that the co-operative movement can come and dictate to these two organisations after they have worked so hard and so successfully and got into their present position? Many of the men connected with the I.L.P. and the N.S.P. have belonged to the co-operative movement for a great number of years, done all they possibly could for it, and helped it to secure representation on local committees, and the whole thing has been done through the Labour movement. Our friend, Mr. Perry, tells us that the Federation of British Industries has two hundred representatives. What do we find at West Ham? The whole of the so-called moneyed class, the Liberals, Tories, parsons, publicans, teetotalers, and others of this class amalgamate together to fight us, but notwithstanding that fact we are able to secure and hold the reins of office. Labour organisations have got to work at the street corners when a General Election comes, and you have got to vote for the right people.

Mr. NEIL MCLEAN, M.P. (Scottish Section): I want to speak as a member not only of the Central Board of the Co-operative Union, but also as a member of the Labour Party, a member of a trade union, a member of a Socialist Party, and also a member of the Parliamentary Labour Party. I want to put this point of view before the delegates who are assembled here. I have believed for the last 25 years in the unity of the working classes of this country, not for the purpose of continuing class domination when they gain power, but for the purpose of putting an end to class domination. But I also recognise that if the co-operative movement, as is suggested by the amendment put forward to-day, joins the Labour Party by affiliating to it, that you are not strengthening the Labour Party by that affiliation. You are rather weakening it; because the co-operative movement to-day is in exactly the same condition, and is exactly at the same period, as the trade-union movement was at the time of the Osborne judgment; and I do not want at the moment to have the Labour Party fettered by an organisation

that does not yet know its own mind. I am speaking bluntly. We have societies' members taking local action against societies entering into political action even as co-operators, and I want co-operators to understand their position in politics is only going to be won by the most severe struggle that those interested are prepared to put up. I want that struggle to be within the co-operative movement. When you are practically unanimous that it is necessary for the movement to work politically as well as commercially, then it will not take a resolution from the floor of a meeting or a Congress to urge us to take action; that resolution will come from the platform. Circumstances have converted people before now, and they will convert delegates on the floor. I wish to vindicate the position of the Labour Party. The Labour Party does not stand for the drink question. I stand, like Mr. Greening, as a life-long abstainer, and I want to say that the Scottish Labour movement has declared for prohibition. If the English Labour movement has not, then the fault is not the fault of the Scottish Labour movement, but the fault of the men who have spent a lifetime in the English working-class movement.

Mr. F. G. GILLINGHAM (Bristol and Somerset District): I stand to support the amendment. We used the word "affiliation." Our friend Waterson told us last night that we were the people, and if I understand the phrase he used, co-operators and members of Labour parties are one and the same people. If you say "Hear, hear" and believe it heartily, I want to ask can you get too close to yourself? Procrastination is the thief of time. It is not a question of whether the movement shall enter into politics. They decided that at Swansea. The question is whether you are taking up the reins and driving unitedly with the party you call the Labour Party. If you are right in adopting a political attitude at Swansea, then go forward. Do not let any M.P. or candidate for Parliamentary honours say you are false to your principle. Having adopted a political policy, enter the arena and march to a greater life.

A DELEGATE: Does the affiliation include the I.L.P.; if not, why not?

Mr. PERRY: The resolution definitely recognised the Labour Party, of which the I.L.P. is a section.

The DELEGATE: Is it?

Mr. Perry: It should be. How many sections they have is their business, not ours. I want to submit to this Congress that every argument used in support of the amendment has meant that the co-operative movement is asked to go directly inside the Labour Party. That is not the view of the National Committee. I want to tell our friend from Stratford that his society has now awakened to its political consciousness and the result has been shown in the last few months. My old respected friend, Mr. Greening—against whom I have fought—and I find on this very question that at least we meet on one account as—

A Voice: He does not believe in the principle at all.

Mr. Perry: Mr. Greening has been too long in the movement—and his

work stands for itself—for any delegate to say that he does not believe what he advocates.

Concluding, Mr. Perry said: We have come to the conclusion of the war. All round, from the East to the West, in the North and the South, there comes a cry for a larger life. I want you to make history by forming one huge force, in which sections of all peoples can unite to travel along the road, which may be hard, and always stony, but which leads ever onward and upward to a higher form of noble life.

The CHAIRMAN: We have the motion of the Bristol Society instructing the Central Board to secure affiliation with the Labour Party. That is an amendment to the resolution of the Parliamentary Representation Committee. Will you say "Aye" or "No"?

A vote was then taken by the delegates holding up their cards, and the Parliamentary Representation Committee's resolution was declared carried.

AGAINST CONSCRIPTION.

Mrs. FOUND (Bristol) then moved a resolution against conscription, as follows:—

That this Congress emphatically declares its unqualified opposition to the policy of conscription as applied to this country, and resolves to use every effort to bring about the repeal of the existing conscription laws.

She said: It is regrettable that I have to come to Congress to move such a resolution. We set out in the war professedly to destroy militarism. We did not think it was to destroy it in other countries and to establish it in our own. We find that the military spirit was not confined to one country. I ask Congress to join with other working-class bodies and declare our intention to get conscription abolished. Organised Labour, since the establishment of conscription, has declared itself strongly against it. The Trades Union Congress, you will remember, in September, 1915, unanimously passed a resolution against conscription. Not only did they do that, but a Labour Recruiting Committee was set up to induce the people of this country to volunteer to fight in order to save the voluntary system. In spite of the fact that over five million men in this country volunteered to fight for what they believed to be right and just we know only too well that we got conscription established in this country. I want to remind you of the sinister way in which it was brought about. I have been talking to a supporter of conscription since I came to this city, and he said the people of this country had to be educated up to it. I am afraid the people have been educated down to it. We remember how, shortly after the Labour Recruiting Committee was set up, the cry went up of the thousands of single men who would not fight; and the capitalists pitted one section against another, the married men against the single. And talk about pledges! The married men were promised again and again it would not apply to them; and yet in May, 1916, the Bill was extended to draw in married men also;

until we got another Bill in 1918 extending the age. We were told it was for the duration of the war only. Those people here who read the *Daily Mail*, and such papers, know how these people have been angling to get conscription all along. We heard a lot to-day about the December Election. We remember how, when it was sent forth that every vote for the Coalition was a vote for conscription, Lloyd George retorted that "it was a characteristic and calculated falsehood." Well, before three months had passed another Conscription Act was brought before the House of Commons extending the Act till 1920. And so the thing goes on. People have been led to-day to believe that, as soon as Peace is signed, conscription will go off the Statute Book. Do you believe it? Never would it mean industrial conscription we were told. We have to thank the *Daily Herald* for showing us what it does mean industrially. We have been told by the Government that they did not intend using the military in industrial disputes. Mr. Churchill says "No, not in small industrial disputes." A man who is an engineer or a railway worker, as soon as there is any dispute in his particular industry, is going to be called out to shoot down his fellow-worker, because the soldiers were told it was their duty to fight anywhere they are wanted. I appeal to this Congress—it is a women's question—that this organisation, in keeping with other working-class organisations, should take the matter up. We talk a lot about turning the Government out. If we surrounded the Houses of Parliament and kept them in it would mean a lot less trouble. We must join with the other parties and keep these men in until they take the Conscription Act off.

Mr. A. E. WATERSON, M.P. (Kettering): I think it is a very fitting thing that a member of the fairer sex should move a resolution of this character. If any class of the community has passed through hours of sorrow and through hours of trial it is the women folk of our land, the women who have borne those boys, who have cradled them, who have reared them, and cared for them as children and up to the age of 18 years. And then for the Government to bring in a ruthless Bill to take away, in brutal fashion, the sons they have lived and struggled for! It is a most cruel and callous system; and I feel justified in seconding a resolution of this character, because of my attitude in the House in voting against the extension of the Military Service Bill. Whatever our policy might have been on conscription at the beginning of the war, I want to draw attention to the fact that it ought to be doomed now that the war is over. Lord Milner, who said "I hope the time will never be necessary to become keen and active propagandists of national service," also said "it is the wisest plan, under the present circumstances (1916), to keep quiet in order to ensure the permanent adoption of our principles." The policy of that party is to advocate this conscription for the purpose of building up a new army. We ought not, under the League of Nations, to have any new army. The policy of the conscriptionist is to want conscription not only during the war but after the war. It is required by the imperialist class of the community not only in this

country, but it is the policy of militarism in other lands. You know full well, without any words of mine to elaborate it, that wherever this principle raises its ugly head it degrades the nation. Wherever you trace in the history of the world, in Greece, in Italy, and many other countries, you will find that conscription has been a powerful weapon in the hands of the capitalistic class. I want to say in no unmistakable language, that conscription ought never to be on the Statute Book of the country. A real co-operative commonwealth can never be realised while an enactment like this stands on the Statute Book.

The Congress approved of the resolution.

THE CO-OPERATIVE PARTY.

Mr. E. WHITELEY (Manchester and Salford) very briefly moved the following resolution—which was unanimously adopted—saying that now co-operators were a party in politics they desired to take their position as the Co-operative Party:—

That the scheme for securing direct representation, adopted at the Liverpool Congress, 1918, be amended, in order to allow the political activities undertaken by the National Co-operative Representation Committee to be designated the Co-operative Party.

JOINT COMMITTEE OF TRADE-UNIONISTS AND CO-OPERATORS.

(See Report 26, page 191.)

Mr. G. MAJOR (North-Western Section) presented the report of the Joint Committee of Trade-Unionists and Co-operators. He said: You will see, in the last part of the report, reference to the dispute between certain societies in Lancashire and the Operative Painters. That is one of the principal questions, and the Joint Committee have not been able to come to a decision in regard to it. At the present moment the matter is under consideration of the Parliamentary Committee of the Trades Union Congress. The deliberations of this committee, on both sides, have been conducted in the most harmonious fashion.

Mr. J. MATON (Edmonton): There is nothing said that in awarding the amount referred to on page 82, unionists and non-unionists were treated in the same way. I am in a position to say this led to a great deal of dissatisfaction in the branches of one of the organisations to which this refers. Many of the staff in this shop were unionists and a few were not, and they had a disagreement about it, with the result that none of them paid any contributions for three months. We have now established relationships between trade-unionists and co-operators, and surely the movement ought to be able to find out some method of treating non-unionists as they ought to be treated. If there is anything in this cry for closer relationships between

trade-unionists and co-operators, then the co-operative movement ought to put its house in order by saying they are only going to employ trade-unionists. It would wipe out the stigma that, year in and year out, for twenty-five years, has been put on wholesale and retail stores by non-unionists.

The Congress accepted the report unanimously.

UNITED ADVISORY COUNCIL OF TRADE-UNIONISTS AND CO-OPERATORS.

(See Report 27, page 196.)

Mr. W. MILLERCHIP (Midland Section) moved the adoption of the report of the United Advisory Council of Trade-Unionists and Co-operators. He said: I am afraid a few of the delegates do not realise the vast amount of work undertaken by the Joint Advisory Council. We have been talking of unanimity of action and the joining together of the forces of Labour and of democratic organisations. The Joint Advisory Council is an attempt in that direction, to bring about complete unity of action and harmony between the two great democratic movements we represent. The work during the year has been largely of a propaganda character. We realise the need for educational work of this kind; and for this purpose we have had conferences and meetings convened of a most successful character during the past year. Probably the greatest success, so far, has been achieved by the London Council in their recent meeting at the Albert Hall, where 7,000 people were drawn together to hear expounded the principles of both movements. We are also anxious that the finance of this great democracy should be utilised in the interest of this great movement, and not invested in private capitalistic undertakings to be used against us in any serious crisis. Trade-unionists in increasing numbers are taking advantage of co-operative banking arrangements in order that we might develop production and the control of sources of supply. There is a better feeling to-day between the two movements than has ever existed in their history. We are anxious that there should be complete unity of action on every question affecting the social and economic life of the people of this country; and if you continue to support the work done by the Council, I am sure still more good work will be done and a better state of things brought about.

Mr. T. Y. PEMBLETON (Worcester): I want to know if the N.U.R. is included in this. We spend £311,000 a year on education; but what do we spend it on? Can something not be done in our scheme of education and organisation to develop the proper spirit in the people? Could we not have a hall in every village and town? I want to see the N.U.R. included in this scheme of education and organisation. I come from a village where the parson and the squire rule the roost; and I never get on a public platform without conveying to the audience some idea of the necessity for education and organisation among the people.

The passage in the report relating to the Co-operative Defence Committee was passed without question.

HONORARY MEMBERS OF THE BOARD.

(See Report 29, page 199.)

The next paragraph contained the names of gentlemen recommended by thier Sectional Board for election as honorary members of the Central Board. The names, approved of by the United Board, were :—Messrs. R. Fleming (Irish Section), E. L. Griffiths, D. M'Innes, S. Redfern, W. W. Smith, and G. Woodhouse (Midland Section), H. R. Bailey, W. Crooks, and J. Murdoch (Northern Section), H. Stuttard (North-Western Section), J. Allan, D. H. Gerrard, and A. Meldrum (Scottish Section), A. H. D. Acland, A. W. Golightly, E. O. Greening, A. Hainsworth, H. J. May, and R. Rowsell (Southern Section), A. Bullock and H. Westbury (South-Western Section), and E. R. Wood (Western Section).

The PRESIDENT formally moved their election and the Congress unanimously approved.

DECEASED MEMBERS.

(See Report 30, page 199.)

The paragraph recording the names of members of the Central Board who had died during the year was next submitted and the delegates rose in respect to the memory of the deceased while the paragraph was passed. The list contained the names of Messrs. S. Butler (Midland Section), C. J. Beckett and J. Morrell (North-Western Section), G. Bisset and J. Lochhead (Scottish Section).

GREETINGS FROM THE SHEPHERDS.

A telegram was read conveying the following greeting from the Ancient Order of Shepherds :—"Loyal Order Ancient Shepherds' Friendly Society assembled in Aberdeen send hearty greetings and wish you successful conference.—SAUNDERS, secretary."

The Secretary was authorised to wire an acknowledgment.

The following message was also received from the "Save the Children" Fund Committee :—"Save the Children Fund Committee urge co-operators to press for further relief measures for children and hospitals in famine areas."

REPORTS OF SECTIONS.

(See Report 31, page 200.)

Mr. H. S. GLANFIELD (Devon District Association), on the S.W. Sectional Report, said: Reference has been made to the assistance given to the Devon District. It is the only district association that has appointed a

full-time organiser. We undertook that work with our eyes open and we had to get funds out of our own pockets; but when the funds were nearly exhausted we had to appeal to the Union, and I have to thank the Union for the assistance they then gave and are continuing to give. This is really work that should be taken up by some other body outside the district association.

SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THE UNION.

(See Report 35, page 208.)

The PRESIDENT: I have been asked to move the following resolution on behalf of the Central Board:—

That the rate of subscription to the Union be increased from 1½d. to 2d. per member in the case of distributive co-operative societies.

This is a request to societies to provide the additional funds which are necessary in order that the Co-operative Union may not only extend its work, but maintain it at the same ratio as it has been performed in the past. The Union, like every other organisation, co-operative and otherwise, has been the victim of increased costs as the result of the war, and last year the expenditure was in excess of income by £2,414. It is obvious that it will be impossible not only to extend the work but to carry it on without some proposal of this character being submitted and agreed to by the various societies composing the Union. Those who have taken the trouble to read the conclusion of the report will see the reasons explained very fully for the increase to the amount set forth, and will also see the proposals which the various committees of the Union have for the development of their work now peace is again with us. We of the Union believe that the future contains great possibilities which bring with them responsibilities for our organisation; but to make the work of the Union as effective as it ought to be increased funds should be provided. We are asking that the rate of subscription should be increased from 1½d. to 2d. per member, and our only apology, for it is an apology, for the increase asked is for it being so small. I think it is generally conceded that in most organisations where the work is of the same character as the Co-operative Union, subscriptions have gone up one hundred per cent. We are only asking for an increase of sixty per cent, and with the additional funds we are proposing to extend our work and develop our activities in many directions. I think a speech is unnecessary to commend this proposal to you; therefore, without any more words I will move its adoption.

Mr. W. R. RAE (Northern Section): I have great pleasure in seconding the resolution. I felt yesterday when I was asking for more money to carry on our educational work that I had your sympathy. As I was speaking I glanced at the pictures on these walls and I found myself wishing that we had sets of pictures like those to lend to the people who are carrying on our children's classes, in order that the classes may be still more successful.

Yesterday a delegate suggested that we ought to use the cinema in our educational and propaganda work. I wish we could, and the only thing which prevents us from doing so is the question of finance. You have been asking during Congress that assistance should be given to smaller societies by the appointment of organisers and advisers and helpers generally, and the only thing that hinders us from giving that assistance is the want of the necessary money. You have been deciding, with great wisdom, in my opinion, to extend your political operations and to assist in the formation of a great People's Party, and here again the question of finance comes in. I do not believe you are asking for these things without being equally willing to find the money to enable them to be done, and if the money you provide is not fittingly spent send us about our business and put in our places men who will do it better; but do not let the future of co-operation be hindered for the sake of 3d.

Mr. BLAKEBOROUGH (Burnley): My society does not object to the subscriptions being increased, but to base the subscription on membership is thought to act unfairly on those societies which have dual membership as compared with those which have not. Has the Central Board considered the question of basing the subscription on sales instead of membership?

The CHAIRMAN: Yes.

Mr. F. A. GIBBINS (Brighton): I support the resolution. So far as my family is concerned, there are four members in it, and all are perfectly willing to pay their 3d. extra towards the work being carried out by the Co-operative Union. The Co-operative Union should have asked for 3d. instead of 2d. per member, because I think the money would have been forthcoming to help them in the work they are carrying on. They have not asked for enough in my judgment, nor in the judgment of my society. Mr. Rae can easily spend the extra 3d. in his department. You can extend the summer schools; and if you want this work to extend, and this is only one branch of work, you must in all fairness increase the funds of the Co-operative Union. I hope all the delegates will vote unanimously for this increase and come prepared at the next Congress to vote another penny.

The resolution was adopted.

NATIONAL POLICY.

(See Report 37, page 214.)

Mr. F. HALL (Adviser of Studies), in moving the adoption of the report on National Policy, said: If we are to do any effective work, we must know in what direction to go and we must know how we are going on our way. The national policy gives to societies which want guidance, information to help them in their operations. The national programme as suggested for the coming year is a means of realising that national policy. For a few years our membership has been rising rapidly. As the President pointed out in his inaugural address, we increased our membership by about one million in the space of four years. Last year our increase was lower than

it has been for many years. It is important that we increase our membership. Every society should have its canvassers going round from door to door for the purpose of getting new members and securing more trade from present members. Members should be secured not merely to swell the figures, but for the purpose of increasing our powers to realise co-operative ideals; and we must convert them into good co-operators. The future of our movement depends upon the individual purchases of the individual member. If our members do not come along with their small as well as large purchases all our great schemes of reform will be impossible of achievement. Capital is a question of great importance. The value of money has fallen, and the capital we possess is of less value than it was years ago; and if we are to develop it is essential that we should have additional capital. It is essential that all steps should be taken to encourage members to leave their money in their societies, and bring other money if possible. No careful student of the economic position can fail to realise that the present economic position is an entirely artificial one, and sooner or later the bubble will collapse. We must prepare ourselves against that day, so that if a bad time does come we shall be financially strong.

The report was adopted without discussion.

ORGANISATION OF ALLOTMENTS AND ALLOTMENT HOLDERS

(See Report 40, page 223.)

Mr. T. Y. PEMBLETON (Worcester): I should like to know if these remarks refer to the Agricultural Organisation Society, and I have to ask if we should support this organisation? My reason for asking that is that in my particular district they came to "tell us the tale," and they were supported by "His Lordship" and "Her Ladyship." I hold no brief for this sort of people. But when I and my good co-operative friends are at the meetings they are abandoned. As co-operators, are we to support them or not? No doubt there are co-operative delegates here who might tell me—privately—what they know about it.

The CHAIRMAN: The question of the Agricultural Organisation Society referred to is the subject of the resolution sent in by twenty societies and read out to the Congress. Evidently our friend is not aware of it.

NATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE WAR MEMORIAL.

(See Report 42, page 224.)

Mr. W. J. DOUSE (Midland Section) submitted the War Memorial resolution:—

That this Congress approves the provision of a National Co-operative War Memorial, and instructs the Central Board to prepare a scheme or schemes, and submit same to society members at the earliest opportunity.

He said: I am perfectly satisfied that the proposal I have the honour to

submit is one you will readily concede. The terrible sacrifices of the employees and members of our societies in the armageddon, just supposed to be ended, were made by men whose bodies are lying on foreign soil, whom we do not forget and whose memory we cherish. Our people are of the opinion that it is our bounden duty to erect some permanent memorial to those patriots of freedom and liberty. I am as satisfied of this, as I am satisfied of my own existence, that there is no man or woman who would refuse a recognition of our gratitude due to our dead. It includes also the putting of our hands in our pockets. Happily the resolution does not commit us to any form of memorial; but whatever form it takes you must prove your co-operative generosity to get the money. My experience of 40 years tells me that when there is a call of this kind you will readily respond to it. I am satisfied I have said sufficient to commend it to your judgment.

Mr. R. SHARP (Pendleton): I second this resolution. Every co-operative society will desire to raise some sort of war memorial to its employees: but I want to throw out the suggestion to those drawing up the scheme of the National Co-operative Memorial that we cannot have a better memorial than a Co-operative College.

The resolution was passed unanimously.

DEPUTATION FROM ROUMANIA.

The next report was that relating to Foreign Congresses; and the PRESIDENT announced that the Roumanian deputation would address the Congress at this stage.

A cordial greeting was given to M. Stefanescu-Preboi on his rising. Having addressed the Congress in French, his speech was translated by one of his colleagues, Mr. John E. Funnell, who is an Englishman, long resident in Roumania. The translation was as follows:—

It is extremely difficult to describe the suffering endured by our population, who unfortunately were subject to the German occupation, it being only really known to those who were forced to live through and endure the systematic and methodical German looting of which our country was the unfortunate victim. I will consequently try to bring to your knowledge the necessities of which the unfortunate people of Roumania are in urgent need; the necessities, not only of the occupied portion, but also of the portion which suffered from the Russian treachery owing to the Bolshevist movement. There were about four million Roumanians who lived in the portion of Roumania which was occupied by the Germans, about two-thirds of the entire surface of the country, which part was the richest portion. Agricultural Roumania became, during the occupation, the granary of both Germany and Austria; and during two wretched years was looted of all its grain stocks, which were taken by the Germans and carried by rail or water route to Germany or Austria. During the autumn of 1918 they took by force every pound of wheat that could be found, thus depriving the population of the possibility of obtaining a fresh crop this year owing to their

not having seed in sufficient quantities for sowing during the autumn of 1918. In consequence of this we are at present unable to export any grain, having at present only petroleum and other produce from crude oil.

They further ransacked the country of 80 per cent of domestic animals such as oxen, horses, cows, pigs, and sheep, the peasants and co-operators having to conceal in the forests and other hiding places the few cattle which they managed to save; and some succeeded in bribing the German officers who were in command of the looting gangs stationed in the various villages of the occupied territory. In consequence, it was impossible for the peasants to work the land on account of their not having the necessary cattle to pull the implements which are used for farming. On the other hand, the working classes in the towns are suffering on account of their not being able to obtain any meat as food, there is also very little milk in the towns.

On account of the bad kinds of food which our population had to consume, and the want of soap for washing purposes, various kinds of epidemics broke out, such as enteric, typhus fever, and smallpox, which caused numerous casualties and filled many graves. The Germans had, besides, taken all fats and oils and had prohibited under severe penalties the manufacture of soap. All stocks of cloth, calicoes, prints, and yarns were taken by the Germans, leaving the population almost without clothing. All wool produced was looted and sent to Germany, hides of every description were commandeered, thus depriving all of boots and shoes. To replace shoes, boots were made of a kind of carpet cloth, with wooden soles, German make, but very dear; and then the cloth was replaced by a kind of paper cloth. This was a consolation for the tried patience of the population. After the signing of the Armistice the situation, instead of bettering itself, became worse, on account of the want of the means of transport. The country had been looted of almost all its railway engines and cars; the greater part of the engines which were left were more or less wilfully damaged. Being thus deprived of the means of transport it was next to impossible to fetch from the ports on the Danube and Black Sea the small quantities of goods which arrived from abroad and which were sold in the interior of Roumania at exorbitant and fantastic prices.

All the agricultural machinery was commandeered, and on account of nothing having been imported for the last five years everything in this line must be purchased afresh. It is proposed to replace the former German manufactured machinery by the importation of British-made machinery and implements for the use of farmers. The British manufactured machinery is, on account of its solid construction, well appreciated in Roumania, and it is hoped that your makes will command the market. On account of the missing animal power for working machinery and transport, oil-traction engines will have to be used for both town and country use. The most urgent need of the peasant co-operators at present is cotton yarns and all kinds of textile fabrics for clothing for themselves and their families, which in greater Roumania will rise to-day to about 14,000,000 persons. The

reason of my speaking mostly of peasants is the fact that nine-tenths of our co-operators are peasants, the rural labouring population who at the present moment are absolutely without the common necessities of life, and who are a hard working class, but unable to pay the fantastic prices demanded by various speculators for different kinds of goods.

Faced by this situation the co-operative societies could not remain satisfied, and proceeded to try and obtain for the suffering population goods of all kinds at reasonable prices and of British make. The Roumanian co-operative movement is represented by 3,000 popular co-operative banks, which are strongly grouped around 40 strong federations, which undertake the supplying of the peasants' needs. The co-operative village societies for the exploitation of land numbered before the war 600 over all. Since the concluding of the Armistice, December, 1918, and the dividing of all the land in Roumania amongst the farming peasantry, the number of these co-operative societies has risen to 2,000. These have been entrusted with the working of the land which was formerly held by the landlords, thus proving that the co-operative movement in Roumania has a solid foundation. The co-operative villagers each have their share in these societies and work the land in a practical way, using machinery and selling their produce in common.

There are other 300 co-operative supply societies which up to the declaration of war traded in the sale of wheat, &c., and which possess and own individual plots. They will continue to trade in the supply of goods and the sale of produce as soon as the harvests in Roumania warrant it. There are also co-operative societies for the exploitation of forests.

All these credit societies, consumers' societies, and producers' societies are helped by the Central Co-operative Bank, which is managed by a board of directors composed of delegates, half of whom are appointed by the co-operative societies and the other half by the Agricultural Ministry, on which institution the Central Bank depends. The working capital of this bank is found in the same way; that is to say, half by the State and half by the co-operatives. This bank grants large credits to the Federations and co-operators, and has the authority to check the actions of the co-operative and federated managers, but the independence of each co-operative society is respected by this bank, as the societies can make and undertake all operations which are in accordance with the co-operative statutes.

In short, we can say that the co-operative movement has found a durable and strong root in Roumania and in these conditions she should not stay inactive in view of the co-operative victims of the German occupation. With this end in view the Federated Roumanian co-operators came here to help those that are without the necessities of life, and were well received by the British co-operators, with whom we wish to establish solid business ties for the future. This federation will distribute all the goods we can obtain through the popular banks and the supply societies; and, by these means, will help the Roumanian co-operators to get away from the shameless speculation of both large and small merchants who in the past used to

obtain exorbitant prices for all their requirements. The British co-operators have the power to assist the Roumanian peasant in textile produce of all kinds, agricultural machinery, oils, soap, soda, &c., besides other produce which could be found.

Our peasants deserve help, as their endurance and pluck during the war is well known by you ; and they are at present impatiently awaiting the blessings of peace which are very slowly coming into the east of Europe, where the Bolshevie wave is still agitated and where the Roumanian army, composed mostly of peasants, continue to fight. Therefore, fellow-co-operators, I hope that the good reception you have given us, will be the means of making a good and sound tie for the future between British co-operators and Roumanian co-operators in a high humanitarian sentiment, conforming ourselves to the principles of International Co-operation which will continue more prosperous and stronger for the happiness of mankind.

Long live the British Co-operators !

Long live International Co-operation !

CO-OPERATION IN DEVASTATED AREAS.

(See Report 51, page 229.)

The PRESIDENT : On behalf of the Central Board I submit the following resolution :—

That this Congress heartily supports the appeal issued by the Union to societies on behalf of the co-operative movement in the areas devastated by the war, and calls upon every British society to accord it the most generous assistance within their power.

It is to be regretted that it has not been possible for each and every one of the delegates to hear what our Roumanian friend has just told us with regard to the awful conditions which obtain in that country ; and what obtains there obtains to an even worse degree in other areas which have been devastated by the war. In the district of France which has been occupied by the armies, in the north-east portion, which is the most co-operative portion of the whole country, you find that two-thirds of the societies which existed in 1914 are absolutely out of business. The whole of their buildings have been razed to the ground or very badly damaged and their stocks commandeered, and at this moment our French comrades are engaged in the herculean task of rebuilding their societies. The same condition of things obtains to a very marked extent with regard to Belgium. We may go on in this strain throughout the whole of the countries where war has carried ruin. We in this country have many things to be thankful for. Our movement has not been damaged during the war, but we have been able to grow and develop our financial strength during this period.

This brings with it responsibilities, and I want to suggest that one of the first is that we should give all the help we can to the co-operative institutions which have been, to all intents and purposes, destroyed by the war. We know there will be a demand for reparation on the enemy Governments,

but what we want to do is to enable these societies to recommence business as quickly as possible. I am quite sure that what British co-operators can give in order to re-establish the societies on firmer foundations than ever will readily be forthcoming. Our thanks are due to the Wholesale Societies in England and Scotland for placing substantial credits at the disposal of these societies, which will help substantially towards attaining the end in view. The Co-operative Union decided some months ago to appeal to the societies, and we are submitting to this Congress this proposal in order that you may go back to your societies and go carefully into the matter. We want you to find out how much you can give, double it, and then add 20 per cent. It can all be spent usefully in the interests of the movement. I hope every society will rise to its responsibility.

Mr. J. JOHNSTON (North-Western Section) said: I have an intimate knowledge of one society which has suffered through the war. I refer to the well-known Familistère at Guise, which in 1913 had assets of £700,000. The whole of these works have been gutted by the Germans, every piece of machinery destroyed, and a great part of the associated homes have been burned down, and these people have no money to commence work. The workers have lost even the patterns of their machines, but I am glad to be able to say that I have been able to help them. I had a set of drawings sent me by M. Godin some years ago—he knew I was interested in engineering—and these I have been able to send over to the workers at Guise, from which they will be able to reconstruct their machines.

The resolution was adopted.

INFORMATION AND STATISTICAL BUREAU.

The PRESIDENT moved the following resolution:—

That this Congress approves of the establishment of an International Co-operative Bureau of Statistical and Commercial Information.

Mr. Hayward said: This is a preliminary step towards setting up a bureau of an international character, which will enable the co-operators of the world to know their position in relation to every other country. The information which can be collected by a bureau of this character can be used not only in England, but also for the commercial development of every country in the world. We are anxious that this bureau should be set up in order that it will help not only our own Wholesale Societies but every country in which we are interested. Congress, by approving of this principle, will be doing something towards carrying out the work which was begun by the Inter-allied Conference held in Paris in February. We are anxious to develop international co-operation. International co-operation spells trading relationships, and trading relationships need knowledge and all the information we can get in regard to the activities of co-operators in the various countries of the world; and it is in order that this information can be collected that we ask you to approve of this resolution.

The resolution was formally seconded from the body of the hall and adopted.

A DELEGATE: Who will compose the bureau?

The PRESIDENT: The various organisations of which it is formed. We are approving the principle.

INTERNATIONAL TRADING.

The PRESIDENT said he had also been asked to submit the following resolution to Congress, and the Productive Federation asked that the words "Productive Federation" should be inserted after the words "Wholesale Societies."

The alteration was agreed to, and the resolution was adopted as follows:—

This Congress urges the necessity of setting up international trading relationships between the different countries, and to this end asks that a conference of Wholesale Societies and the Co-operative Productive Federation should be convened with a view to establishing closer commercial relations between the co-operators of the world.

A DELEGATE asked if the using of a common language had been considered in the carrying out of the work of the International Co-operative Alliance.

GENERAL CO-OPERATIVE SURVEY.

This resolution was as follows:—

- (a) That the reports of the General Survey Committee be received.
- (b) That the Central Board be instructed to arrange for the several reports to be discussed at specially convened sectional and district conferences to be held within a period of six months.
- (c) That the Publications Committee be instructed to issue the reports in suitable form, and to prepare literature in pamphlet form explanatory of the proposals and recommendations made by the Survey Committee; and
- (d) That a special Congress be held in February, 1920, for the purpose of (1) Adopting or otherwise the proposals and recommendations included in the reports of the General Survey Committee submitted to this and preceding Congresses, and resolutions of the district and sectional conferences and societies referred to above being circulated to societies along with the notice convening the special Congress; and (2) Instructing the Central Board to prepare the necessary alterations of the rules of the Co-operative Union as may be necessary to make them harmonise with the recommendations of rules to be submitted to the 1920 Congress.

Mr. W. R. RAE (Northern Section): I have to ask you to accept the resolution that has been accepted by the Central Board on behalf of the Survey Committee. You cannot do this report, or yourselves, justice in an hour's discussion. We are asking that you shall accept it, and then hold a special Congress in February, so that you can go through it chapter by chapter. You will receive it and instruct that the matter be discussed at special conferences, and hold a special Congress in February, 1920, to go through it and send suggestions to next year's Congress.

Mr. GREGORY (Central Board) formally seconded the resolution.

Mr. H. G. BALDOCK (Gateshead): I am of the opinion that it would be better if voting papers were sent out to societies for and against the various proposals. We have the same thing at every Congress; and to have another Congress would be a great expense to the societies in sending delegates. My proposal would provide an opportunity of getting a consensus of opinion.

Mr. F. JENNINGS (Pendleton), at this stage, withdrew his society's amendment referring the Survey Report to the Central Board with a view to their bringing same before the societies for discussion, prior to a special Congress during Congress year, 1919-20.

A DELEGATE: I suggest that the Survey Report should be accepted without carrying out any of the proposals, and that the Co-operative Union or the United Board should be perfectly at liberty to act in any direction on the basis of the suggestions.

Mr. RAE: I want you to understand what we want to do. The report is not withdrawn from discussion or thrown aside, or dealt with in any way to hamper your freedom. It gives you more freedom. Our action means you will have plenty of opportunity in societies and district conferences to deal with the matter, and you will come together for a two days' Congress in February to discuss this and no other business.

The Survey Committee's resolution was then put to the meeting and carried.

Intimation of resolutions for discussion on Wednesday was made by the CHAIRMAN, and the Congress then adjourned for the day.





THIRD DAY OF CONGRESS.

WEDNESDAY, 11th JUNE, 1919.

MORNING SITTING.

The PRESIDENT, taking the chair on the Wednesday morning for the final sitting of Congress, said : I have pleasure in again wishing you a very good morning. I hope we shall enter upon the closing session with a continuance of that good feeling which has characterised our proceedings up to now.

CO-OPERATIVE POLITICAL PROGRAMME.

Mr. J. JOHNSTON (Manchester and Salford) : I desire to move the adoption of the following resolution :—

That the following be included in the Parliamentary programme of co-operative political policy, and shall be embodied in the election address of every approved co-operative candidate for Parliament :—

That the profiteering of private speculators and the trading community generally be eliminated by legislation or administrative action, by limiting interest on all capital employed in the processes of production, distribution, and exchange to 5 per cent per annum.

- The nationalisation of land, mines, shipping, railways, canals, and water supply.
- The abolition of slums, and the erection of a sufficient number of semi-detached cottages, each having ample land attached to enable the occupiers to grow their own vegetables.
- The establishment of a State bank, also of municipal banks to protect the community against the huge financial monopoly being built up by the universal amalgamation of joint-stock banks, for profit-making purposes, so that works of reconstruction, and other matters for the well-being of the people, may be carried out at a minimum of expense for financial service by the use of public assets and credit.
- The establishment of a working day not exceeding eight hours for all workers.

By limiting the percentage on capital to 5 per cent we are accepting the figure laid down by Robert Owen as the right practice to pursue. We have continued to pay a maximum of 5 per cent on our capital until quite recently, when the directors of the Wholesale Society decided to give 5½ per cent on the Development Bonds which they issued. Of course they were the best judges as to the rate which should be fixed to attract the capital they wanted, but I maintain this: that if you limit the profit on all capital to 5 or 5½ per cent you are going a long way towards eliminating that profiteering from which we suffered so much during the war, from which we still suffer, and are likely to suffer unless we make an alteration in our banking system. The next point is nationalisation of land and mines. I am not going to say anything about that, because of a special resolution which has been sent in by societies, and which will come before you at a later stage of the Congress. Of course, you cannot nationalise mines and shipping unless you nationalise the land, which is the source of all wealth. Our resolution proceeds to refer to the abolition of slums, and that question is of even greater importance than housing itself, because that is where our C3 people are produced; but you cannot deal with the abolition of the slums—and I speak from a long practical experience of Manchester's slums, which are as bad as in most cities—without you have large sums available for the purpose, without throwing the whole of the taxation in the form of interest on borrowed money and the creation of a redemption fund upon the community. I have not time, however, to go into all the points raised in the resolution, and what time I have left I propose to devote to the next paragraph, which deals with the establishment of State and municipal banks, which I believe would give us an infinitely better system of finance. Our present system of finance is altogether in the interests of the capitalists, and that is where we spend and waste so much of our public and co-operative money. May I give you one instance showing how much the housing business is going to cost us under our present financial system? Manchester requires at least 17,000 new houses, and the cost will be six millions sterling;

probably a good deal more. If we had State and municipal banking, Manchester, with its excess assets of £12,000,000 over liabilities, need not borrow, as the assets would be security for the capital outlay. The six millions will be paid off by a sinking fund formed out of revenue from the houses, and 5 per cent interest will have to be paid on the borrowed capital over a period of fifty years. This means that the houses will cost for interest alone, the enormous sum of £11,700,000, or twice as much as the original capital outlay. I have that on the authority of an expert accountant. With regard to the finance of our movement, we have a co-operative bank. That bank is a growing institution; it is a fine institution; and it does the business of the co-operative movement in a satisfactory way, and so far as it can under present conditions it is doing its business cheaply, but it is hampered by certain restrictions embodied in the Bank Charter Act. I suggest that we should follow the example of the Commonwealth of Australia. They established a State bank in 1913, and under the Act which governed its formation it was given authority to borrow £1,000,000 from the State Treasury with which to make a start. But the bank only asked for £10,000, which it was thought would be sufficient to meet current expenses, and within twelve months the whole of the £10,000 was repaid to the Commonwealth Treasury. The bank did not make any money for two years, but it has since built up realisable assets to over £70,000,000, and has accumulated net profit of over one million sterling. It has lent to the different states of the Commonwealth to carry out public works, the sum of £18,000,000, without interest, in the form of currency. That system can and ought to be carried out here, not only in connection with our national and municipal undertakings, which have enormous credits in realisable assets at their disposal, but also in connection with the co-operative movement, which has a total excess of assets over liabilities of £38,000,000. We have here real assets, real wealth, all of which could be used for the purpose of carrying out the undertaking I have suggested. Municipalities, by means of these banks, could carry out their housing and other schemes without paying any interest on capital expenditure, as the revenue, in the form of house rents, payment for gas, electricity, water, tram fares, and so forth, from such undertakings, would repay the borrowed capital in a comparatively short period. The Government could hand over the cash in the form of notes on the security of that revenue and on excess assets over liabilities without interest, as they did to the joint-stock banks in 1914, which had only about £50,000,000 in their possession to meet the £100,000,000 lent them by their depositors. In this way the municipalities would be able to build cheaply, and pay back the capital in about twenty years from rentals without any expenditure so far as interest on borrowed capital is concerned and without any necessity to create a sinking fund, and so do away with the heavy burden the community has to bear from profit-making banks and money lenders.

Mr. L. A. HILL (West London) seconded the resolution and referred to the big amalgamations of capital which were going on in the banking

world. He said they were getting towards the time when the banks would be able to control the whole credit of the nation, and, controlling the credit, they would be able to control the capital. If they had watched the reports of the meetings of these banks, they would see that they were making huge profits. Some of them had declared dividends of twenty-five, twenty-seven, and even thirty per cent.

Mr. S. KEMP (Wigston Hosiers): This resolution is a very large order. It scarcely seems to be the right time and the right place to discuss so many such important proposals. We recently had a co-operative programme formulated which deals with these proposals in a certain way, and most important alterations are suggested. It does not matter whether we affiliate with the Labour Party or not if we tie all our candidates down to a more definitely Socialistic programme than the Labour Party has got. We are assured that the movement is standing at the back of and financing the same policy. In this resolution that is what is proposed. The very first proposal—the method of stopping profiteering—is a rather big one, that all interests should be by law limited to 5 per cent. That would have a very bad effect in connection with production generally. It would also affect us in the co-operative movement, and no new and no untried method of production in any line of business that was risky because new machinery was being brought into it could be run if interest were limited in this way. No new concern has been floated in the capitalistic world where there has been any risk—owing to invention or work done—in which the interest has not had to be higher to get sufficient capital to carry it on. The whole thing requires more discussion than we can give it here. In our co-operative programme we have decided that land shall be secured for the people by the taxation of land values. Are we to pass a resolution that we will hand over our land and buildings to the State? Are we prepared to give up the idea of banking?

Mr. G. GOODENOUGH (North-Western Section): On behalf of the Parliamentary Representation Committee I have to ask you to reject the resolution, not necessarily because we are against all the proposals contained in it, but because we believe that, in the majority of cases, they are already provided for in the programme we have in operation. If you take the first clause, everything except the 5 per cent is specifically mentioned in the programme. With regard to State banking, I think the committee are all agreed that the danger in this is that it might get into the hands of the huge financial octopus. I suggest that, as a representative organisation, before we issue any definite suggestions as to international and co-operative finance, we ought to have a consultation with our own financial organisations and secure that the suggestions will be sound. Practically the only difference between us and the Manchester Society is that they want us to take the bull by the horns, and we want to take it by the tail, so that we can let go at any time.

The question was then submitted to Congress. There was a preponderance of "Noes," so the Manchester resolution was rejected.

CONSTITUTION OF THE NATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE REPRESENTATION COMMITTEE.

Mr. C. HEMMING (Ten Acres and Stirchley) moved a resolution on behalf of his society :—

That the constitution of the National Co-operative Representation Committee should be so altered as to admit of a co-operative candidate running as a Co-operative and Labour or Socialist candidate.

He said : We have had the experience of an election in our division where a candidate was run as a co-operative candidate. We have been up against something in the Labour interest. The candidate we had was second to none. He was not only a good co-operator; he was also a good Labour candidate. We appeal to Congress so that societies can please themselves whether they adopt one or the other. In the interest of the constituency, with strong Labour representation, we should be able to tack on the name of Labour or Socialist, as well as Co-operator. It was said that the suspicion between both bodies was more apparent than real. Our experience at last election was that it was more real than apparent. We had Labour voters who would not vote for our candidate because he could not go with the full Labour programme. In our division we outed a Liberal and put in a Coalitionist. It is an industrial district, and if we had had what this resolution expresses we would have got nearer the mark than we did. I move the resolution.

Mr. W. J. ROGERS (Northampton) seconded the resolution. In doing so he desired to appeal to the Congress, with all the earnestness he possessed, to pass the resolution. Perhaps (he said) you will pardon me if I give you some idea of how some of us are being dealt with a little unjustly, because some, perhaps, do not understand the whole of the position. At the last election I had the opportunity of contesting the Daventry Division of Northampton. I had the full backing of every society in the division, eleven in all. I had the backing of every trade union and every trades council and every socialist organisation. In the second place, I went before the electorate with all the forces of democracy behind me. But I could get no co-operative recognition. The amazing thing is that for twenty years the whole of my spare time has been spent in advocating co-operative principles on the platform and in other places throughout the country. In the Daventry Division we have wide areas where the agricultural labourers have never had the opportunity of entering into the benefits of the co-operative movement, and so I had to take the labour message to them. That message appeals to all industrial workers the land through. I was able to run a lateral lord of the country, a relative of the Duke of Grafton, so hard that in the last seven days of the contest the Liberal Party had to issue a special circular to all their people urging them to come out or Rogers would beat Fitzroy. Now, I want the men and women of the co-operative movement and of the labour movement to give us a chance in these rural areas where there are few co-operative organisations. Next Monday we shall be out on the village greens for co-operation. We are

bringing in our supporters in hundreds, but our propaganda is not enough. Give us the opportunity of calling ourselves Co-operative Labour candidates.

Mr. C. A. W. SAXTON (Midland Section), on behalf of the National Representation Committee, said: I have to ask this Congress to reject this resolution because of the resolution already carried against affiliation with the Labour Party. You have also carried a resolution agreeing upon the designation of our party. To be consistent you must vote against this resolution. More than that, the constitution of the Labour Party will not permit any of their candidates to be designated "Labour and Co-operative," and how can we agree that our candidate may be designated "Co-operative and Labour"? Our constitution already provides for joint working between the two organisations. In Northamptonshire—in Wellingborough and Kettering—there was an understanding between the Labour Party and ourselves. While they supported our candidate in Kettering we supported theirs in Wellingborough, and both were elected. Neither was called "Co-operative and Labour," one was "Co-operative" and the other "Labour."

The PRESIDENT: Are we prepared to vote?

The vote was then taken; the President thought the "Noes" had it and declared the resolution lost.

Mr. ROGERS thought a card vote should be taken on so important a resolution, but this claim was not pressed.

CONSOLIDATED RESERVE FUND.

Barry and District Society had sent in the following resolution, viz. :—

That this Congress, recognising the increasing necessity for co-ordinating the financial reserves of the movement in such a manner that each individual society may be freed from the risk of compulsory liquidation, and members of societies be thereby encouraged to invest with absolute confidence their savings in their respective societies, hereby instructs the Central Board of the Co-operative Union to invite each society-member of the Union to contribute to a Consolidated Reserve Fund at the sub-joined rate, or at such other rate which the Congress may direct; this fund—

(1) To be under the control of the Central Board. (2) To be invested in such a manner as to be easily realisable. (3) To be limited in extent at the discretion of the Central Board. (4) To be appropriate to the following purposes :—

(a) To rescue by means of a free grant any contributing society from insolvency; (b) To aid by means of a loan any contributing society which, because of a "run" on share capital, or any other cause which may be considered reasonable by the Central Board, may be seriously in need of such assistance; (c) To any other purpose which the Congress may from time to time direct, or which the Central Board may deem desirable.

Rate of contributions:—Societies with an annual trade up to £100,000, $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per £ of sales per year; societies with an annual trade of £100,000 to £250,000, $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per £ of sales per year; societies with an annual trade of £250,000 to £500,000, $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per £ of sales per year; societies with an annual trade above £500,000, 1-16d. per £ of sales per year.

Mr. E. F. DOBSON (Barry): In these days we hear a great deal of talk about Reconstruction. We are given an opportunity here of doing a piece of real reconstruction. Up till now each society has worked alone, societies endeavouring unaided to make headway against mighty enterprises private firms are carrying on. If this resolution is carried all societies will, to some extent, work together, combine their financial resources, and form a bulwark which will act as an invincible defence against any onslaught that may be made against them. Our co-operative movement is not co-operative enough. Our societies certainly work together; but do not do so in a sufficiently co-ordinated measure. I find in the report of the Irish Section that two societies have lapsed. Ought there not to have been machinery in the movement to help these societies out of their difficulties? It is unthinkable that a society member of such a wealthy body as ours should die of poverty. More capital is a general need in our societies, and very few can boast of a superfluity of it. Why is it that so many societies are unable to get capital for their own requirements? It is because in a large measure people have not the necessary confidence in the financial stability of their societies, and we cannot blame them when we know that every society stands upon its own legs.

Mr. D. W. THOMAS (Barry): I have much pleasure in seconding the resolution, because I think our experience of the last five years warrants something being done in the way we propose. You will probably agree with me that we have lived in most extraordinary times. Some people believe we are out of the wood by this time, but there are many of us who think otherwise. I think the need for care is as great to-day as ever, and we do not realise, we do not even know, what is ahead of us. We have seen during the war period how the opponents of co-operation have combined against it, and we want to consolidate our forces to meet any attacks which may be made upon us. We are told that the motto of the co-operative movement is "All for each and each for all," yet I am afraid we do very little in the way of acting up to it. It is a true saying that the strength of the chain lies in its weakest link. It behoves us as big organisations to see that our movement is upheld, even in its weakest part. I suggest that by adopting the proposal contained in our resolution we shall form such a bulwark that it will be impossible for those multiple firms to defeat our ends as they have hitherto done.

The PRESIDENT: I suggest that while approving the principle of the resolution you should remit the whole question to the Central Board for consideration and report.

Mr. S. BLAKEBOROUGH (Burnley) : I move it.

A DELEGATE : Can you accept an amendment?

The PRESIDENT : A resolution has been moved and seconded. May I ask Congress to accept it? I think that will be the best way of dealing with the matter. Barry accepts. Are you agreed? I declare the motion carried.

LAND NATIONALISATION.

Mr. RUSSELL PATON (St. Cuthbert's) moved the following resolution :—

That this Congress considers that the present system of private property in land ought to be abolished, inasmuch as it hampers production, taxes industry for the benefit of non-workers, makes land difficult of access and insecure of tenure. It also causes overcrowding, checks public improvement, and gives to irresponsible private individuals injurious power over the lives and liberties of others. This Congress therefore demands that the land be made national property under the administration of representative local authorities, so that it may be put to the best use in the interests of the whole community.

He said : I understand this resolution has been sent in by over 100 of our organisations, and 300 of our societies are committed to the principle of land nationalisation. It might appear a somewhat inconsistent policy for us of the St. Cuthbert's Association—the largest land-owning association outside the English co-operative movement—to advocate a policy of land nationalisation; but I am here to warn my friends who are out for confiscation or spoliation of the land, we are up against you every time. I tell my friends who are out for spoliation to-day, there is going to be a 'bonny fecht.' We have acquired—quite honestly—some of the broad acres of Midlothian, because we believe we must get at the sources of supply. But co-operation will take a long time before it can get possession of the whole of the land in this country, and that is why we believe in land nationalisation. It is only a return to the *status quo* if the land should be restored to the people. I cannot go into the question as to how it is to be acquired. What is morally wrong can never be put right by any method of taxation. We ask you to join with us in restoring to the common people their heritage.

Mr. LEWIS (Failsworth) seconded the resolution, which was adopted without discussion.

SUPERANNUATION.

Mr. W. T. CHARTER (Cambridge) : On behalf of the Cambridge Society, I have been appointed to move the resolution in their name. Since the resolution was sent in, expressions of opinion have been received from a number of societies, who think that any superannuation scheme that may be adopted ought to be clear of any war or peace memorial. In order to meet the wishes of these societies, we have, with the permission of the Standing Orders Committee, put forward the following amended resolution :—

That this Congress approves the principle of the establishment by the movement of a national fund for the superannuation of its employees.

No doubt there will be opposition from certain quarters on account of the co-operative movement proposing to make provision itself for its own employees. I hope to meet that opposition entirely when I have an opportunity of replying. I submit in these days when we are talking so much about reconstruction, and when we are hoping that the position as between employer and employed shall be improved, that the movement itself must take its proper place in the matter of its respect for its own people. I claim that the movement has a responsibility to those men and women who have given years of faithful service in their efforts to build up, with you, the co-operative movement. How many societies have some old employee who is not able to give the efficient service which you would wish? You cannot turn him out, and you ought not to turn him out. But because you must keep your business up to date, and with efficient management, you have to provide some other means whereby this man can be provided for. I suggest taking out an endowment policy under the Co-operative Insurance Society. This would also be a benefit to his wife and family in the event of his pre-decease. The matter was first suggested in the form of a bonus on labour, but that was so abused that even the employees were not sorry to see the back of it. I think the employee should have some direct interest in his industry. That is the idea of the organisation for which we are appealing. I formally move the resolution.

Mr. W. GOODALL (Burton-on-Trent): I second the resolution because my own society has frequently had old men who were forced to depend on charity. It is the least we can do to provide a superannuation fund so that in old age they will be saved from pauperism and charity. We ought to go one better than the other firms. There are plenty of firms who won't see their workers go into the workhouse, and we as co-operators should also create a better spirit. Instead of treating our employees as servants, we should treat them as co-operators, and create this good feeling by providing for their old age.

Mr. H. HONSEY (Worksop): If I understand rightly, the wages of co-operative employees compare favourably with those of rival establishments. I know several members who do not get as big a wage as the more fortunate co-operative employees, and yet the poorer members are expected to subscribe to the funds for people better off than themselves. I shall not get a pension when I am sixty years of age. If the framers of this resolution had gone in for national superannuation I would have supported them; but this scheme is unfair.

Mr. H. SHEARD (Wakefield): I fully sympathise with the principle of this resolution; but the time seems to me inopportune to consider a scheme for any one class of individuals. Instead of a pension for a privileged class, we should endorse the principle of a national scheme of universal pensions. We

speak of the civil service, the police, and others: ninety per cent of these are filling occupations that are unproductive. Why should they be entitled to pensions to the exclusion of the great producing classes? I am not in favour of any pensional "class." The best way to commemorate the declaration of peace is for the Government to introduce a scale of pensions covering all classes—employers and employees—on the basis of wages received. Something will have to be done to secure fixity of tenure for the workers. The saving in poor law expenses alone would enable us to meet the cost of a general scheme. I look to the great co-operative movement to support this Christian work for the disabled workers. We do not want poor-law relief; but we want the co-operative movement to take up the work of securing national pensions.

Mr. E. W. MUNDY (Bristol Printers): I would not have intervened in this discussion at all but for the last speaker but one. I never thought I should hear again in the co-operative movement the idea that we should not do for anyone more than is being done for ourselves. The national scheme is nothing like as good as we desire. We desire to see that scheme made so that it will reward those who save for themselves instead of penalising them. It must provide for the minimum needs, at least. The co-operative movement as employers will have to do something more for their employees than the private trader.

Mr. S. BLAKEBOROUGH (Burnley): I would like to ask Mr. Charter to make it clear whether this is to be a contributory scheme or whether the movement has to find the money.

Mr. J. BARRY (Plymouth): Can you tell us the number of societies in the movement that have agreed that this resolution should be brought before Congress?

A DELEGATE: Mr. Charter is a member of the Parliamentary Committee. Why is the national pension not made a plank in the programme of the Parliamentary Committee?

Mr. CHARTER (replying): The fact that I am a member of the Parliamentary Committee has no reference to the resolution. I am bringing this resolution on behalf of a society in the Union. I am not prepared to say if the scheme should be contributory or non-contributory. It may, or it may not be. Some of us, in other places, will be prepared to say that. We ask you here to adopt the principle, and not to enter into details till some committee has reported. I am unable to say how many societies are interested in this proposal. There has, of course, been an expression of opinion from several of the largest societies, but this will come before the movement again. I ask Congress to adopt this principle; and I do hope the day has gone by when we shall measure our action towards labour in the same degree in which we are treated. We should give better conditions to those we employ than the average employer. This is not a revolutionary scheme. Many capitalist concerns have pension schemes for their employees, and I only ask Congress to adopt the principle and let us try to follow in the wake of the best. The

movement can provide for those who have grown old in the service. Is it not our business to humanise industry and ease the life of every worker? We have passed a resolution in favour of land nationalisation, but that does not prevent the Co-operative Wholesale Society from buying land till nationalisation comes about. We have passed a resolution demanding that the State should control distribution of essential commodities, and yet we, ourselves, approved of voluntary rationing in our own societies. We can approve of the payment of pensions also pending universal State pensions.

The resolution was then put and adopted by the Congress.

EMPLOYEES REMAINING AT WORK DURING A STRIKE.

Mr. J. SHARPLES (Blackburn) : It falls to my lot to move the following resolution :—

That, in the opinion of this Congress, the time has arrived when definite conditions as to co-operative employees being permitted to remain at work during any strike in which any group or groups of employees are called upon to cease work in sympathy with others, should be agreed upon between organised labour and co-operative societies; and it calls upon the Co-operative Union to approach the Trades Union Congress, through the Joint Committee, or otherwise, with a view to such conditions being formulated and put into practice as early as possible.

The resolution appears on the agenda in the name of the Blackburn Society, but it does not come to this Congress on the initiative of the Blackburn Society only, because we, in the district, called a representative meeting of both trade-unionists and co-operative societies, in pursuance of the policy of the Central Board, at which this resolution was adopted and directed to be sent forward to Congress. It has, therefore, the backing, not only of co-operative societies, but also of representatives of trade unions in that district. The resolution does not propound a scheme. We have sufficient confidence in the men whom we and the Trades Union Congress send to the Joint Committee, or to the Advisory Council, to feel that they will appreciate the merits of the situation and will themselves evolve a scheme calculated to meet the emergencies which from time to time arise, and which did arise before this resolution was thought of. In the report of the Joint Committee of Trade-unionists and Co-operators you will have noticed that a deputation from the co-operative societies in Blackburn was received by the committee when sitting at Stoke-on-Trent in regard to a particular dispute, and the case submitted was sympathetically considered; but this happened, the Council began to take action after the dispute had been some time in existence. We want, if possible, to avoid such a position in the future. I would, therefore, suggest that where a dispute is likely to occur we should have a scheme under which we could immediately place the details in the hands of the men who have the confidence of both movements and be guided by their decision. The question of a strike or a

strike policy is not concerned in the resolution at all. I want to disabuse your minds of that. For instance, if a co-operative society has a dispute with its own employees this resolution does not touch it at all; it has no concern whatever with a set of circumstances like that. We are, as co-operative societies, employers of labour, and if we have a dispute with our own work-people we should not expect to be better treated than ordinary employers. But the resolution does affect a set of circumstances like the following :—The Blackburn Corporation had a dispute with its tram workers; as a co-operative society we were not concerned in the dispute at all, but we had in our employment men who were members of the Vehicle Workers' Union, and the tram-way workers called them out in sympathy. What happened? The private traders being their own carters were able to carry on their business as usual; the railwaymen were not called out, and co-operative societies alone were greatly handicapped, because every man, being a trade-unionist and acting on the call of his Union, ceased work, with the result that we were not able to use our horses and carts for the purpose of conveying goods from the station to our shops. As I say, we had no concern as a society with the dispute, and yet our men had to stop work. At a time when co-operative societies should give the greatest help they were paralysed by a policy which should be avoided. The aim of the co-operative movement and the trade union movement should be, not the destruction, but the strengthening of each other, but if we proceed on those lines I do not see how we are going to succeed. Where a private employer has a dispute with his workpeople, and the co-operative society in the town is not concerned in it, it would be far better for the employees of that society to remain at work and thereby ensure supplies of foodstuffs to trade-unionists, rather than that they should be called out in a sympathetic strike. If you want to succeed in any issue you will not succeed by cutting off your supplies of food. I appeal to you to have confidence in the men you have appointed to deal with disputes, and be ready to accept their decision. The resolution raised a point which it is imperative we should deal with before a dispute arises, and I hope you will accept it.

Mr. S. BLAKEBROUGH (Burnley), in seconding, said: The point at issue is this, when there is a dispute outside the co-operative movement then we ask trade-unionists not to bring out co-operative employees in sympathy. I believe there was a strike in Scotland recently, and the *Scottish Co-operator* could not be produced because the employees had been brought out in sympathy. I am a trade-unionist, but I am speaking now as a co-operator, and I think if you will support this resolution it will be a link in the chain between us and our trade-unionist friends.

The PRESIDENT: Already steps are being taken, through the Advisory Council of Trade-unionists and Co-operators, in the way indicated by the resolution. We should be pleased if the Congress would affirm the principle contained in this resolution.

The resolution was adopted.

DISTRICT CONCILIATION BOARDS.

Mr. A. J. CARDING (Leek) moved the following :—

That the constitution of the District Conciliation Boards be amended so as to preclude persons sitting as members of the Conciliation Board who have previously been negotiating with the cases when before the societies or Hours and Wages Board. Also that provision be made for an independent chairman to be brought in to preside over the Board with power to vote.

He said the amended constitution precluded members sitting as members of the Conciliation Board who had been previously negotiating between societies and Hours and Wages Boards, and provided that power be given for an independent chairman to be brought in with power to vote. Continuing, he said : When you come to a Conciliation Board you expect to have persons sitting on the Board with an unbiassed opinion. In the present constitution you find that the very persons who are sitting to adjudicate on your case have been negotiating for terms. You might have your buyers representing your side of the movement and the employees' side of the movement. We ask that it should be made impossible for anyone to sit on the Conciliation Board who has been negotiating. We want justice both for employers and employees, and we cannot have that if persons on either side are allowed on the Board and in the conciliation room. Sometimes there is a block in the voting. If there is an independent chairman, with power to vote, it will make matters much easier.

Mr. G. J. WILKINSON (Compstall) : I have the honour to second the resolution. As chairman of the Manchester District Hours and Wages Board I claim to be closely in touch with the working of the Conciliation Boards. I think you will agree that one of the contending parties almost invariably has the same people sitting on the Conciliation Board that it had in the previous negotiations with the societies and the Hours and Wages Board, and the question of conciliation does not and cannot apply. It is utterly impossible to call a Board a Conciliation Board under such conditions. Imagine what would happen if the societies took up the same position. All we would get would be a second meeting of the same parties who previously failed to come to a conclusion and conciliation would be reduced absolutely to a farce, and it is not much different as it is. We appeal to you to pass this resolution in order that this state of affairs may be changed.

Mr. W. GREGORY (North-Western Section) : I am not rising to oppose this proposal, but simply to point out that it is rather unconstitutional to bring the matter here in the way it is being done. The conciliation and arbitration machinery was brought into existence by arrangement with the other party. It was a mutual understanding between the contending parties whereby differences might be adjusted in conformity with the constitution of this Board. The proper course would have been to consult the other party, as we promised at Congress. I was responsible for bringing the matter before you, and I understood, if the machinery was found unworkable, it would come

forward in a constitutional way. In the light of experience gained in the operation of the Boards, I contend we are only setting ourselves out to bring disturbance and discontent of the movement to this Congress. Whilst you have a just cause you should take constitutional means to put it in order. I suggest that you take it back and have the support of the other parties to amend the machinery accordingly.

Mr. W. R. BLAIR (North-Western Section): I want to support this resolution. I have had experience before a Conciliation Board in a case in which, of the eight members before whom I appeared, four had already negotiated and discussed the case. Three members of the employees' union and one representative of the societies had been before the Hours and Wages Board on the same case. It is ridiculous to expect that there would not be any bias or that the case would not be prejudged. It is necessary to pass this resolution as the United Board could not do anything in the matter and this resolution would give the United Board a mandate. The employees are reasonable men. If we have a grievance it is our duty to put it before them. In other cases than the one I have mentioned the balance might be in our favour and against the employees.

THE PRESIDENT: Can we have a vote? ("Yes!") All in favour say "Aye!" The "Ayes" have it.

THE CO-OPERATIVE COLLEGE.

(See page 153.)

Mr. W. ABBOTT (Walsall) moved the following resolution :—

That this Congress is of opinion that a Co-operative College is essential to the welfare and development of the co-operative movement, and that no worthier memorial of the Peace and of those co-operators who have served and fallen in the war could be established than an institution for the dissemination of the principles of co-operation and harmony in industrial and international relationships. It therefore instructs the Central Board to organise a fund forthwith for the establishment of such a college, to which co-operators and co-operative organisations may be invited to subscribe.

Mr. Abbott, in support of the resolution, said : I am quite sure the friends of co-operative education will welcome the measure of help that the Congress has given the Central Education Committee with regard to the Co-operative College. You were already unanimous in stating that a Co-operative College is necessary and that the Central Education Committee should have the necessary finance and staff. That secures the first point of our resolution. The second point asks you to give the Central Committee the necessary generating power to put the resolution into operation. The President told us in his inaugural address that we were entering upon a new era. We are entering upon a period of fierce national and international competition. The dominant power in the world rests in the hands of the people. The federation of

employers have had a conference with the governors of the universities of this country to work out a scheme whereby the universities might bring into the service of the federation the best scientific methods. We want a different atmosphere. We say there is no worthier way of showing our gratitude to the dead than by discharging that debt to the living by dispersing national and international ignorance, which is the precursor of all war. One thing which stands out is the slow pace at which we move and come to decisions; but if we are in earnest in our expressions of gratitude we shall pass this resolution to-day. I may add that the resolution did not emanate altogether from Walsall, but at a conference of all the societies in South Staffordshire.

Mr. J. J. WORLEY (Glenfield): I will second this resolution. Our dead heroes have made the supreme sacrifice to establish peace; yet, if we look at the desires of our own imperialists and chauvinists at the Paris conference we find we have to follow up the sacrifices of the flower of British manhood in some way. When it was proposed to erect a monument to Sir Christopher Wren some one said, pointing to St. Paul's Cathedral: "If you want a monument, look around!" We ought to take such steps as will enable us to say: "There is a memorial to those who have laid down their lives!" The proposed college will disseminate the principles of co-operation and harmony in our industrial relationships.

The resolution was agreed to.

PURCHASING POWER, EDUCATION, AND RELIGIOUS TEACHING.

Mr. R. SANDFORD (Grimshaw Park) moved the following resolution:—

That this Congress, in order that the purchasing power of all co-operators shall be equalised, demands that no efficient school shall be excluded from the fullest educational advantages on the ground that, in addition to teaching other subjects, it also undertakes to give definite religious teaching.

He said he was simply performing a duty in moving this resolution. Personally, he continued, I do not care how the resolution goes, but I want to ask the presiding officer to allow those who are desirous a chance to speak.

Mr. D. MCGOWAN (Grimshaw Park): I second the resolution.

The PRESIDENT: I have been requested by the Central Board to call the attention of Congress to the fact that at our last Congress a resolution in exactly similar terms was submitted and rejected by an overwhelming majority. The Central Board regret the introduction into Congress of a subject upon which most acrimonious feelings may be developed.

The resolution was defeated almost unanimously.

THE NATIONAL DEBT.

Mr. W. GOODALL (Burton-on-Trent) asked for the adoption of the following proposal:—

That, in the opinion of this Congress, the enormous National Debt, necessitating huge annual payments of interest and sinking fund,

constitutes a serious hindrance to industrial and social reconstruction and a menace to the prosperity of these islands, and is a burden which should not be thrown upon future generations; the Congress, therefore demands that the Government at once reduce this debt by the imposition of a levy on capital, such levy to apply to individual properties, less than £1,000 to be exempt, and a graduated scale to be imposed above that sum.

He said: We have a great burden to hand down to our children and children's children, unless we do something to clear this debt at the present time. We say we should support conscription of wealth. We have already adopted the principle of conscription of human life, which is the greatest wealth of a country. We have adopted the conscription of wealth in regard to income tax and death duties, why should we not go a step further and ask those who are possessed of the riches of this world to do something towards reducing this debt? I move this resolution with great pleasure.

Mr. W. EVANS (Burton-on-Trent) seconded.

Mr. J. MILLINGTON (Midland Section): I ask the Congress to look this resolution squarely in the face and reject it, because, in the first place, it would be difficult of assessment. It would be more difficult still to collect, it makes no distinction between earned and dead capital, and the cost of valuation and the time taken would put it out of court. Why set up new machinery when you have the old machinery that can be adopted for this purpose? You have the machinery for collecting income tax, death duties, and indirect taxes. It is possible to so adjust them as to make them to our liking. Let us know something about it before we do anything. If that thousand pounds limit is on dead capital you might get an income of 5 per cent a year; but there is no distinction between this and a man having an annuity of a thousand pounds. This resolution is impracticable and ill-considered, and you will do well to reject it.

The resolution was lost.

PROPOSED SEPARATE SECTION FOR YORKSHIRE.

Mr. S. HALL (Dewsbury District Association) moved—

That the six Yorkshire districts of the Co-operative Union be constituted a separate section of the Union, to be named the Yorkshire Section.

He said: There is an amendment to alter the name of the section, from Yorkshire to North-Eastern. I would accept that at once. Let me state what has been done to get the opinion of the co-operators of Yorkshire in regard to this resolution. It was considered, in the first instance, by the Dewsbury Executive Committee, who thought it a wise step to have a division, and at a conference held later the same decision was arrived at unanimously, and it was agreed to invite representatives of the six districts to attend a con-

ference at Leeds. That conference was held, and this resolution was passed. We have had a Survey Committee sitting for the past few years considering the constitution of the co-operative movement, and I am surprised that they have not come with a recommendation to divide the North-Western Section. Let me just give you an idea of the North-Western Section. It extends from Hull and Scarborough in the East to Holyhead in the West. There are 1,366 societies, and of that number no fewer than 422, or 30 per cent, are in the North-Western Section. Societies have a membership of $3\frac{1}{2}$ millions, of which number 1,424,000, or 37.5 per cent, are in the North-Western Section. These distributive societies have a capital of £39,000,000, and £20,000,000 of that is in the North-Western Section, 42 per cent of the whole; and 35 per cent of the trade done by distributive societies is done in the North-Western Section.

Mr. J. SHARPLES (Blackburn): I second the resolution on behalf of the societies in the North-Eastern part of Lancashire. We are not getting the advantage we ought to get from our organisation. As an illustration, take our sectional conferences. The district is so large that delegates from societies arrive late at the meetings and have to leave early.

The CHAIRMAN: In view of the fact that in the Survey Report we have the question of boundaries under review, the Survey Committee recommend to the Central Board that the matter be left over till the whole question of boundaries comes up for revision, in order that the position may not be prejudiced. We understand the Yorkshire friends are prepared to leave the matter over till then.

PARLIAMENTARY WORK IN SCOTLAND.

Mr. J. BAYNE (Alloa) moved the following resolution, sent in by the Alloa Society and other societies in Scotland:—

- (a) That the organising of the co-operative vote in every possible constituency in Scotland and the carrying forward of propaganda effort to promote this organisation be remitted to the Scottish Parliamentary Representation Committee and the ten District Defence Committees. Further, that this work be carried on in the closest harmony with the National Co-operative Representation Committee, reports being forwarded to it from time to time.
- (b) That the selection of candidates be left in the hands of the local councils, along with the Scottish Parliamentary Representation Committee, subject to the veto of the National Co-operative Representation Committee.
- (c) That a sum be allocated from the Central Fund to the Scottish Parliamentary Representation Committee to meet expenses.

In support of the resolution, Mr. Bayne said: A similar proposal came before Congress last year, but was defeated. Since then the question of local autonomy has come before the Scottish National Conference and was there unanimously adopted. When Scottish affairs are being brought before Congress

there is generally a good deal of sentiment introduced ; but I want to submit this resolution, not on sentimental grounds, but as a good business proposal. In order that you may fully understand the position, let me point out that, at present, we have in Scotland a National Representation Committee. Although this is a new name, it is the old Defence Committee, which has taken up the work of Parliamentary representation. We have ten local councils, covering the area of the ten conference districts. All that we are asking in this resolution is that this Scottish National Representation Committee shall be recognised as part of the official machinery of the Parliamentary representation business of the movement, and that these local councils be also recognised. If this were done, the whole of the work will commend itself to the people of Scotland, the work will be better done, and it would assist Parliamentary representation, not only in Scotland, but all over the country. The chief reason for saying that is that the Scottish people have a temperament of their own, as most of you know. We have a history of our own ; we have a language of our own, an educational system of our own, and hundreds of laws that are different from the laws of England. These all enter into the customs of the country, and while we are desirous that on this question of Parliamentary representation we should work in complete harmony with the whole movement, we think the work would be done better if we got local autonomy—call it Home Rule if you like—and if you gave us power to do certain things in Scotland. It has been suggested that we have this in the committee as it stands, but that is not so, and we want the local feelings of our country to be brought into play more than they are at present. It has been suggested also that there is something at the back of this proposal, and that it is separation that is wanted. I can assure you that if separation had been even hinted at in this resolution it would be a different individual who would be the mover. It will be a bad day for the movement and for Scotland when we have separation. Co-operation knows no frontier, and it needs England and Scotland and Wales to make this scheme a success.

Mr. A. KERR (Lochgelly) : In seconding this resolution I venture to hope that this modest request will be granted unanimously. The keynote of this Congress during the past three days has been disappointment because there were not more members in Parliament to accompany Mr. Waterson. The question before us is the best way to attend to that. We believe in Scotland that the best way is for you to pass this resolution. We are bound to admit that, while this great assembly has representatives from 1,400 societies, there are not two societies administered alike. Why has the movement been successful ? It is because we have allowed local autonomy to each society in the administration of its own affairs. We, in Scotland, claim a certain amount of credit for being loyal to the whole movement. We have been loyal to distribution and to production, and we are second to none in loyalty in certain districts. In the district to which I belong the members have average purchases of 33s. per week, and there are not two societies administered alike even in that district. As a matter of expediency the time for what we are asking is overdue.

Mr. W. GALLACHER (Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society) : For once in a while all in Scotland are united upon this question. Even Mr. Maclean and myself are backing this resolution. Mr. Maclean will have the opportunity of supporting this in his best Parliamentary manner. You know, the Speaker of the House of Commons had to admonish Mr. Maclean the week before last and had to tell him that "the hon. member for Govan must remember that he is not yet a Cabinet Minister." We have no complaint to make against the operation of the present scheme, except that it does not suit Scotland. We do not say that Mr. Perry and his committee do not give us the benefit of the full operation of the scheme, but the scheme that suits England does not suit Scotland. It is the practical difficulty and not any question of sentiment I am putting before you. The present scheme is impracticable; it is unsatisfactory. We have our Scottish Section, which is the heart and core of Scottish co-operation. We have our district conference associations, which do practical organising. You have ignored these bodies in this scheme. These bodies—the most effective machinery which we have used and built up laboriously—have been left aside. We have to go to London to get into touch with the National Committee. The experience of the last election proved that if we had had our own representation committee we should have done better in Scotland than we did. The Labour Party, because of their experience in Scotland, had to establish a Scottish Advisory Council. We are still willing to leave the veto in the hands of this general committee, but do give us the power we ask.

Mr. N. MACLEAN (Scottish Section) : As a Scotsman, unlike my colleague who has just sat down, I am asking this Congress to give a measure of local autonomy in Scottish affairs to the Scottish people. I know it will be said by Mr. Perry that the present system is working all right in England. I ask you not to judge Scottish affairs by English affairs, because in the past some people seemed to have had the habit of considering Scotland as a small subsidiary county of England. At the last conference it was stated, in reply to the discussion, that if you gave Scotland this committee Durham would be wanting one, and so on, which shows that the mind of the English delegates looks upon Scotland as a county of England. Well, it is not. I want to point out, in addition to the things mentioned by Mr. Bayne, that we in Scotland believe—and your Parliamentary Committee recognise this—there is a difference between Scottish affairs and English affairs, between Scottish sentiment and English sentiment. The committee may set up a legal point in regard to our request for a modified form of local autonomy, but in the new scheme of reconstruction the Government actually set up a separate Housing Bill and a separate Health Bill for Scotland, as well as an Education Bill. These matters were considered in Grand Committees composed, not of Englishmen, but entirely of representatives of Scottish Parliamentary constituencies. If the House of Commons, if the Government itself, has now recognised the necessity for Scotsmen and Scotswomen having the right to determine their own particular local affairs, surely it is not asking too much of the national Co-

operative Congress to allow the co-operators of Scotland the same freedom in co-operative political affairs. In the English Housing Bill there was a clause limiting the Government's support in the way of finance to two years, and it was accepted by the Grand Committee composed of English representatives. When the Bill came under the consideration of the Scottish members, including the Scottish Labour members, the Government was told that the limit for financial support would have to be extended to five years, and we adjourned the committee on that particular point; and when the Government said it would be prepared to extend the period to three and a half years we would not accept the offer unless the same concession was included in the English Bill which it had already accepted. We are not asking for separation, but we do ask to be allowed to work our affairs our way with our ideas and history and customs behind us. Grant us what we desire and you will have greater loyalty from us in Scotland than would probably be the case under the present arrangement.

MR. S. F. PERRY (Birkenhead): Scotland is asking for local autonomy. I think I can show you that Scotland can have all she wants and more than she has had hitherto without altering existing arrangements. I have a copy of a letter, dated 22nd February, 1918, from my colleague, Mr. May, in which our Scottish friends were told there was no difference between the Defence Committee set up and our political council, and all we recommended was the changing of the name from "Defence Committee" to "Political Council." But I want to deal with this question from a business point of view, and what is the business point of view? We have a national committee of twenty-eight members, and on this committee Scotland has got five representatives, and they fight with all the tenacity possible. We have an executive of seven, and Scotland has two out of the seven, who can well uphold Scottish traditions. We fought ten constituencies, and Scotland had three out of the ten. Scotland has subscribed £1,200 to our political fund, and has had about £2,000 out of it. I want, therefore, to submit that Scotland has not done so badly after all. What Mr. Gallacher tells you about the machinery not working smoothly is hardly in accordance with fact. The machinery for England, for Wales, aye, and for Ireland, too—for even distressed Ireland is finding salvation through our machinery—is working smoothly, and if it only had had the same chance in Scotland our Scottish friends would never have moved this resolution. Wales is aflame with zeal for co-operation. We believe that under our constitution there is full scope for local autonomy in every section of our constituency; and if Scotland will only utilise to the full the opportunities she has under the present constitution then our cause will go ahead much quicker than it has done. It will be a bad day for Congress, and a worse day for Scotland, if this resolution is adopted. I appeal to you to combine together, to stand together, face the common enemy with a united front, and reject this resolution.

The PRESIDENT: Are you prepared to vote?

MR. BAYNE: If you carry this resolution we shall leave it to the Central

Committee to consider and devise means that will satisfy themselves and the people of Scotland. I can understand Mr. Perry coming here with the same story he came to the Glasgow conference with, but he did not affect the opinion of that meeting. If Mr. May had had a little more time to study the Scottish character he would have been more successful. Instead of that being an argument against us, I think it is an argument in our favour. It is not true that we want to divide the movement. I think Mr. Perry might have left that over. A Scotchman is a loyal co-operator. He is loyal to the co-operative movement because he knows what it has done for the country, he knows what it has done for the people, and he sees the great possibility the movement affords for bettering and lifting the working class.

The resolution was submitted, and 1,241 votes were given in its favour, the President therefore declared the resolution carried.

The CHAIRMAN: The Standing Orders Committee suggests that, in order to complete the agenda before lunch time, we should continue to sit until the business is completed.

At this point a number of delegates objected to the manner in which the vote on the Scottish autonomy question had been conducted.

The CHAIRMAN asked Congress if the vote should be re-taken, and the reply was a very emphatic "No."

COAL SUPPLIES.

Mr. G. GOODENOUGH (North-Western Section) moved the following resolution in connection with coal supplies :—

That, in view of the probable shortage in the coal supplies of the country, and the consequent suffering to the poorest part of the community if such limited supplies are left to haphazard methods of distribution, this Congress calls upon the Government to at once take steps to provide that the distribution of coal during the coming winter shall be made to co-operative societies according to registration, and not upon the antiquated datum period.

Mr. W. R. BLAIR (North-Western Section) seconded, and the resolution was adopted without discussion.

NATIONAL OWNERSHIP AND CONTROL.

Mr. R. HIBBERD (Parkstone and Bournemouth) moved—

That this Congress believes the system of private ownership and exploitation of the country's resources in the coal mines has been proved to be unjust by the evidence already given before the Coal Commission, that it is injurious to the economic stability of the nation, and that it should be replaced by national ownership and control. It therefore urges co-operative societies to join in the demand for nationalisation and to communicate their wishes to the chairman of the Coal Commission.

The resolution was carried *nem. con.*

SPECIAL AGRICULTURAL COMMITTEE.

The Congress also passed, without speeches, the following resolution, moved by Mr. W. T. CHARTER (Southern Section) and seconded by Mr. T. Y. PEMBLETON (Worcester)—

That, in view of the unsatisfactory relations now existing between the Agricultural Organisation Society and the Industrial Co-operative movement, this Congress instructs the Central Board to consider the advisability of setting up a special agricultural committee for the purpose of organising co-operative societies for small farmers.

THE HOUSING PROBLEM.

Mr. J. M. BIGGAR (Milngavie) : The resolution which I have to move on the housing question is as follows :—

That this Congress protests (1) Against the Government devolving solely on local authorities the duty of providing houses which are a national necessity if an A1 population is desired, as it can be secured in a generation if proper housing conditions are given; (2) Against the unnecessary delays in commencing the provision of houses for the working classes; (3) That no standard of housing and time limit for doing the work has been set for the reconstruction of existing housing accommodation; (4) That the terms offered to public utility societies are absurdly inadequate and only demonstrate that the Government are insincere in their housing proposals and desire to rehabilitate private enterprise and a so-called economic rent irrespective of the results on the domestic and moral lives of the people; and we demand that the work of erecting healthy and commodious houses for the people be proceeded with at once at rentals to be fixed on a basis of pre-war standards; we condemn the policy of the Government in respect of housing, designed, as it is, to provide that private enterprise shall undertake the work in the near future.

I do not wish you to look upon this resolution as in opposition to the report of the Central Board, but to regard it as an addendum. Those of us who have been studying this question of housing feel keenly that the Government is insincere in its attack upon the problem, and believe that it should tackle it as a national issue. That, I am sure, is the opinion of a great number of co-operators. It is wrong of the Government, in dealing with this subject, to endeavour to get rid of its responsibilities by devolution. We shall have to force the Government to face the issue as a national question, for in allowing the work of housing the people to devolve upon local authorities—elected men who persistently oppose any question which is likely to increase the rates—the Government is endeavouring to get behind the question of cost. We are also asking that the Government should set a minimum standard for the reconstruction of the present housing accommodation and put it on a satisfactory basis, and give local authorities a limited time in which to put

the housing of their area in order. In regard to public utility societies, we believe that the co-operative movement can be of great assistance in housing, but under the absurd terms offered to public utility societies our hands are absolutely tied. It is another instance of the Government burking the issue. I have made a calculation, and I find that taking the increased cost of construction at 130 per cent, and not 160 per cent as I am professionally advised, the increase in rents must be no less than 88 per cent on pre-war rents, after taking credit for the financial assistance offered by the Government. We are demanding that this national question ought to be dealt with at the cost of the nation, and that the new houses when built should be brought within the reach of the people, and this can only be done by fixing the rental basis approximately at pre-war rents. We do not want the housing of the people to revert to private enterprise. Everyone knows that the slum problem is the result of private enterprise; that private enterprise has failed, and that we owe the present scarcity of houses to that fact. The time is past when private enterprise can be looked to for providing national necessities.

Mr. P. J. Agnew (Scottish Section): I regret that this resolution has been brought before you in the dying moments of this Congress. But although it may be unfortunate in that respect, I still think it will be a good thing if the delegates leave this Congress with a pledge on their lips and a resolve in their hearts in regard to a resolution of this kind. I want to suggest that this Congress should remit the matter to the National Co-operative Representation Committee, with the suggestion that they should take joint action with the Trades Union Congress.

The resolution was adopted without discussion, and the President announced that this was the last of the resolutions.

ALTERATIONS OF RULES.

There was no discussion when the CHAIRMAN moved the proposed alterations to the rules to give effect to the increase of subscriptions, already decided, from 1½d. to 2d.

The alterations read as follows:—Rule 10, clause 2: Delete “1912” and substitute “1920.” Line 5: Delete “1½d.” and substitute “2d.”

ELECTION OF AUDITOR.

Mr. T. Wood was unanimously re-elected auditor.

THE CONGRESS OF 1920.

The delegates proceeded to settle the venue of Congress to be held in 1920.

Mr. J. MARKS (Bristol), moving that the Congress should be held at Bristol, said: It is ten years since I stood on the Congress platform at Newcastle and invited you to Bristol. Plymouth was chosen, and we accepted your decision. We have been waiting anxiously ever since for you to take the Congress to Bristol, and I am here again to extend a hearty invitation. I offer this invitation with the utmost confidence, because I know, and the

deputation know, that we have all the necessary qualifications for catering for the Congress in an efficient manner. In the Colston Hall there is ample accommodation, and there are abundant hotels. We are not a seaside resort, but a commercial city, and our hotels at this period will be at your disposal. We shall have no difficulty in housing those who prefer private lodgings within a tramcar ride of the place of meeting. You will have an immense field, for whereas the population is 400,000, the membership of our society has barely reached 23,000, and many of these are duplicates. We have still the matter of the exhibition at Congress. This is one of the best advertisements the co-operative movement can have. It creates a lasting impression upon the masses of the population of the town that Congress visits. We are in the fortunate position of having a place at our disposal which will enable us to organise an exhibition larger than any yet organised.

Mr. H. C. CLOAN (Torquay) moved that the Congress should be held at Torquay. He said: I have to invite you to one of the most beautiful places on earth. Bristol has a perpetual co-operative exhibition, for it has the activities of the Co-operative Wholesale Society there, and I think we should assemble the Congress in the deserts of the country. We are in a position to invite you to Torquay, for we have a new Town Hall, finished in 1914, and we can do catering to the satisfaction of every delegate. If you are looking for happiness you can admire the beauties of the place. We are not selfish, because we are co-operators, and so we ask you to come to us next year and enjoy the beauties of the place and to take Congress into ideal surroundings.

The two invitations were voted upon, and the delegates selected Bristol for the next gathering of Congress.

VOTES OF THANKS.

Mr. PURDIE (Scottish Section) moved—

That this Congress expresses its sincere appreciation and thanks to the Mayor of Carlisle for his cordial welcome to the delegates on Monday, to the reverend gentlemen who conducted special services on Sunday, to the artistes and speakers who have assisted in making the evening meetings a success, and to the Reception Committee and the local societies for their arduous and successful efforts to provide for the comfort and entertainment of the delegates, and to the Press for their reports of the Congress proceedings.

Mr. Purdie said he arrived on Friday evening and when he saw the hall on Saturday he was under the impression that they were going to have one of the most disagreeable Congresses he ever attended. When they thought of all the difficulties that had to be contended with, they could agree that the Reception Committee had come out of their task very successfully.

The PRESIDENT: To provide accommodation for 1,700 delegates in a place

like this calls for a superhuman effort. That has been successfully accomplished. I hope all will join in passing this vote of thanks.

A DELEGATE, who had risen several times when Mr. Purdie was speaking, protested against the inclusion of the Press, but the resolution was carried without further dissent, and Mr. Riddle, secretary of the Reception Committee, rose amid applause to reply.

MR. RIDDLE said they had come to the end of their arrangements, perhaps all things had not been all that they could have desired, but there were some things over which the best of men had not complete control. He thought, however, that in Carlisle they had given nearly the average satisfaction to the people who had come to the Merrie Citie. He attributed the success, not to himself, but to the goodwill of the co-operators of Cumberland. Their employees in Carlisle had helped on Sunday and on Saturday afternoon and had worked willingly, for behind their efforts was the co-operative spirit and the desire to produce the best for the people of the co-operative movement.

MR. WATKINS moved a vote of thanks to the President and Vice-President in the following terms :—

That this Congress expresses its sincere thanks and appreciation to Alderman Hayward for his excellent Inaugural Address and for the impartial and efficient manner in which he has presided over the deliberations of Congress; it also thanks Mr. Killon for his services as vice-chairman.

He said: I am sure few words are needed to persuade you to adopt this resolution by acclamation. With reference to our chairman, his presidential address was clear, reasonable, and constructive, and I am sure you will agree it was a valuable addition to the output of the movement in that direction. He has been described in "that mighty engine," the Press, as the "kindly, genial, presiding alderman"; in addition, he is a whole-hearted and enthusiastic co-operator. We tender to him our thanks accordingly. In Mr. Killon we have the plain, hearty, sincere president of the great Wholesale Society. By his help and advice and support to our President he has added one more service to the many which, in the past, he has done for this great movement of ours. I beg to move the resolution, and before I sit down I have to ask, in the name of this Congress, and in the name of the Co-operative Union, that our President will accept a specially bound copy of the work known as "Industrial Co-operation"; and, on behalf of the Wholesale Society, a specially bound copy of "The People's Year Book"; and, on behalf of the Co-operative Productive Federation, a copy of "The Co-operators' Year Book for 1919." To Mr. Killon, who already, by virtue of his services at last Congress, has "Industrial Co-operation," there are similar presentation copies of "The People's Year Book" and "The Co-operators' Year Book."

MRS. GASSON: I beg to second these remarks. Our chairman has watched the ebb and flow of the delegates, but we have not seen him change. He has kept one steady level, and his inaugural address was one of the most homely, useful addresses we have ever had. It will recur to us many times when we

think of the movement. We will remember that great ideal. With regard to Mr. Killon, I think we ought to extend to him our sympathy. Can you imagine what it has been for him to have to sit there the whole time of Congress and not be requested once to get up off his chair! He has my most earnest sympathy. The Congress appreciated his wonderful chairmanship last year, and we appreciate him here, ever ready at the call of duty to take over the chair.

The GENERAL SECRETARY : Those in favour of the resolution say "Aye." There was an enthusiastic response.

Mr. KILLON, who had a cordial reception, said : I have to thank the proposer and seconder of this resolution most heartily. I cannot understand what I have done to merit their vote of thanks, for I have had nothing to do. I believe these Congresses will more and more impress themselves upon the life of the nation, and just in proportion to the extent to which you take a lively interest in human welfare you will become a part of the community that the Press cannot ignore. The best way you can thank me will be by going back to your homes and doing your best to put into practice many of the resolutions you have adopted here.

Loud cheers greeted the President on his rising. This, he said, is one of the most difficult moments I have had in the whole Congress. What I have done I have done in the interests of the movement of which I am proud and for which I see such brilliant prospects ahead. I hope this Congress will advance a stage forward in the progress of the movement towards the realisation of its ideals. If I have done anything at all to accelerate that progress that is sufficient thanks. Nevertheless, I cannot but be profoundly moved by the kindly words that have fallen from the proposer and seconder of this vote of thanks and the heartiness of your acceptance of what they have said. I shall always remember this. I feel profoundly the cordial way in which you received these words of appreciation.

This brought the formalities to a close. "Auld Lang Syne" was sung in time-honoured fashion, and the cheers of the delegates proved a fitting finale to the Peace Year Congress.





APPENDIX.

MEETINGS AND EVENTS CONNECTED WITH CONGRESS.

SATURDAY'S PUBLIC MEETING AND CONCERT.

The popularity of the concert held on the Saturday evening was beyond question. The hall—the County Hall—was filled by delegates and friends long before the advertised time for starting, even the platform being called upon to provide accommodation. But the “housing question” was not yet solved, and the reception committee finally decided to hold an overflow concert in the local society's hall.

Mr. Irving Graham, J.P. (chairman of the Cumberland and Westmorland District Association), presided at the County Hall, and he was supported by Messrs. W. E. Dudley (director of the Co-operative Wholesale Society) and Councillor G. Riddle (secretary of the Carlisle Society, and member of the Central Board), the chief speakers, and many prominent Congress personages.

The CHAIRMAN described the meeting as the first public meeting in connection with what he believed would be an epoch-making Congress. The war was over, and “the world starts to-day with a brighter hope for democracy.” On every hand they heard suggestions for memorials to the fallen. No memorial could be too great or too good for them, and the best memorial of all was to make this “dear old country of ours” a better place to live in for

those who were left behind, and in carrying out that idea they could not do better than observe the co-operative motto of "Each for all, and all for each."

REASON FOR CONGRATULATION.

Mr. W. E. DUDLEY delivered a rousing address during an interval in the musical programme. They had, he said, extremely great cause to congratulate themselves that they had come through the dangerous periods of the most brutal war in history stronger than they went in. Co-operation was getting adherents in unexpected quarters, because it had asked an opportunity to feed the people, and because it offered to put all its warehouses, from the biggest to the smallest, at the disposal of the country in order that the people might be equitably fed. They were strong in consequence of what they had done for the people, but they had not done as much as they would have liked, and which they could have done, if prior to the war the members of the movement had rendered greater assistance.

WHAT OF THE FUTURE.

Mr. Dudley then turned to a consideration of the future. Although he wanted enthusiasm and hard work, he sounded a warning against rashness in building. They had to build quickly, but they must not waste the reputation of the movement by going beyond their finances, which must be absolutely sound. They had to take every penny of money offered. Whoever said they had too much was a humbug. If the money was not with co-operation it would be against it, and as it fell out from the Government, where it now was, it should fall into the next nearest Government—a co-operative Government. There was a great future before the movement. In London alone the new members each week equalled what would be sufficient to start a new society. They had got to put the sword down, and by lifting up the trowel do mighty works through co-operation.

MR. RIDDLE'S ADDRESS.

Mr. RIDDLE said he believed co-operation was the intelligent force which would bring out the highest and best in human character, and until co-operation became the gospel of every man they would have to put up with present-day conditions of life, and not be able to realise their position. He had felt in the last few days they had got the wrong point of view in the co-operative movement. It might be his official connection with the movement which had led him to this position, but, to speak quite frankly, he was somewhat disturbed because of the great demand there was, not for service, but for salary.

Proceeding, he said no man had a greater desire to see the League of Nations become an accomplished fact than he had, but the trend of events during the last five months hardly justified them in believing that their ideas as to what a League of Nations should be would be realised. A league of all co-operators the world over would be a much more magnificent thing than a League of Nations.

AT THE CATHEDRAL.

A great deal of interest was displayed by the delegates in the address given by the Dean of Carlisle (Rev. H. Rashdall) at the Cathedral on Sunday morning. The Dean gave a well-reasoned discourse on the relation of Christianity to social and economic problems, special reference being made to the part which co-operators might play in guiding the democratic forces of the present day. His text was: "Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you."

The DEAN began by pointing out that if everyone in a given society put righteousness first, and if righteousness meant, as Christ taught, the subordination of private aims to the public good, such a society would necessarily be economically prosperous. They should avoid the two mistakes; the old Benthamist mistake of supposing that universal selfishness could lead to general happiness, and the notion that Christianity was so spiritual a thing that it had nothing to do with questions of housing, work, wages, and the like. Christ made the spiritual well-being to consist of love, and love meant caring for the happiness of others as well as for their goodness. After remarking upon the momentous character of the crisis in the social and economic development of this and other countries, the Dean expressed the belief that in guiding the great democratic forces of our time, the co-operative movement might play a mediating and a moderating part. The leading men in the movement knew the needs and the difficulties of great commercial enterprises from the employers' point of view as well as from the workmen's point of view. By means of its wide influence the co-operative movement had also peculiar opportunities of exercising a steadying as well as a stimulating influence upon the vast social movements which were going on. Co-operators' highest qualifications for this influence lay in the fact that they had never abandoned early principles; they stood for the application of high moral and spiritual principles to the organisation of social life, and they had never turned their backs upon the high Christian principles which inspired one section at least of the early co-operative movement under the guidance of men like Maurice, Kingsley, and Ludlow. Their presence in that Cathedral was a symbol of the principle for which they stood, the principle that even economically "men shall not live by bread alone," and that all social relations should be dominated and controlled by that law of justice and universal love which Christ proclaimed in the Sermon on the Mount, and which the conscience and reason of mankind had accepted as the basis of all true social well-being.

THE CONGRESS P.S.A.

It was evident from the size of the congregation at the P.S.A. that all the delegates had not been persuaded by the fine weather to go out into the country

and find their sermons "in running brooks." Mr. J. W. King (director of the Co-operative Wholesale Society) presided, and with him on the platform, in addition to the chief speaker (the Rev. G. A. Ramsay), was the newly-created co-operative knight, Sir T. W. Allen.

The CHAIRMAN recalled the Whit-Sunday of nearly two thousand years ago, and said that though the Gospel then given to the world might not have been ostensibly the origin of the co-operative movement, he ventured to say that the spirit of it was essential for the well-being of the movement. The movement must be a movement of moral elevation; it was, in a word, a spiritual movement which had signs and evidences, and without which they were not sure of even doing the work they desired to do.

The Rev. G. A. RAMSAY, disclaiming any idea of preaching a sermon, based his address on the words, "I am come that they might have life and have it more abundantly." He said that the soul of the co-operative movement was beating in rhythmic harmony with that Divine declaration. The greatest asset of the movement was that it had a moral basis, a moral purpose, and that it sought a moral triumph. Why should there be poverty in terms of things material when the resources of the world were inexhaustible? There was no reason why, and when all things essential to life were co-operatively owned there was every reason for believing that poverty would be banished from their midst. Co-operation meant the good of all, and therein lay the difference between it and private capitalism, which only existed and worked for the benefit of the few.

MONDAY'S MASS MEETING.

MR. A. E. WATERSON'S STIRRING ADDRESS.

BARK AND BITE FOR RECOGNITION.

Mr. W. Scott (chairman of the Northern Sectional Board) presided at the Monday evening's public meeting and concert, and mentioned that Mr. English (Co-operative Wholesale Society director), who should have been one of the speakers, was not able to be with them on account of illness, but Mr. Waterson, their first M.P., was present, and he was entitled to a hearty reception. His success would, it was hoped, create sufficient enthusiasm in the movement to send him two or three colleagues.

Mr. A. E. Waterson, M.P., delivered a very inspiring address, and raised much enthusiasm amongst the audience. He said he felt disappointed at the morning session of Congress, that he was not asked to bring greetings from the assembly with which he was associated. He had not expected, at any rate, that as the first co-operative M.P. he should have been called upon to bring the

greetings of the British House of Commons. But there was not the slightest doubt of that in the future, when co-operators were prepared to make it so. After describing how many of those who had been sent to Parliament by working-class votes were more concerned now about the traditions of the House than the democracy that sent them, Mr. Waterson expressed the opinion that co-operators did not regret the decision of Swansea Congress, although then it was thought that ten wise men would suffice to save the city from destruction. It was apparent now that there could be no satisfaction, from a co-operative point of view, in the British Parliament until co-operation was fortified in itself. Could they conceive, with equanimity, a vast organisation of men and women, five millions strong, approaching the British Parliament to have something done, and creeping, step by step, till it reached some policeman standing at the door, and then explaining its desire to see someone in the outer lobby! When that individual was secured for a moment he had to be asked to be so kind and good enough to do something the movement had not courage to do itself. Was not that a humiliating position? And the member who was seen often had no sympathy with the movement at all. Mr. Waterson then touched upon the international aspect of the movement, and remarked, amidst loud applause, that the Co-operative Congress that morning had secured a league of nations that had not been accomplished at Paris. He proceeded to deal with conscription. He condemned the Government which went to war for a "scrap of paper," but which refused to honour a scrap of paper which soldiers signed when they joined up for the duration of the war. Turning next to the Transport Bill, the speaker explained how the vested interests had combined against this Bill after they had been sent to Parliament to assist in the work of reconstruction. A Dogs' Protection Bill went through without a division, but a Bill for the protection of humanity was continually opposed. The moral was that the people had to bark and bite like a dog to get some consideration from the British Government.

THE EDUCATIONAL MEETING.

ADDRESS BY Miss MARGARET McMILLAN.

FUTURE OF EDUCATION AMONG ADOLESCENTS.

Miss Margaret McMillan (London), who was described by Mr. Rae (chairman of the Central Education Committee), at one of the Congress sittings as "perhaps one of the most wonderful women of the century," was the chief speaker at the educational meeting on the Tuesday evening, and she lived up to her reputation as an expounder of educational ideals in a much

appreciated address on "The Future of Education among Adolescents." Mr. Rae presided.

The following is the text of Miss McMillan's address :—

We are living at a time in the history of the world when very dramatic events are taking place. The terrible war has caused the downfall of one great principle of education and government. The philosophical teaching of the German professors, backed up by its application in detail in the teaching of the German elementary school system, has resulted only in colossal failure and ruin. Brute force as a principle of progress has had its final answer. We, in England, have to reorganise our educational system by the storm light of the late terrible outbreak, and it is not without significance that Mr. Fisher, at the close of the European War, brought in an Education Bill which differs radically from anything that preceded it and strikes a new note in educational legislation.

In 1870, Mr. Forster brought in his Education Bill, which he hoped would banish illiteracy. Illiteracy has been banished. What Carlyle hoped for and urged England to do has been done. Hodge, and everybody who resembles Hodge, can be taught his letters. What is it that literacy did not do? It failed to give us either physical or moral health. All the legislation passed prior to the war was founded on the assumption that two-thirds of the people were ill. Poverty remains, vice remains, disease remains, and inefficiency of every order is still here. The Bill Mr. Forster introduced in 1870 did not bring these evils to an end. Mr. Fisher's Act is conceived in an entirely new spirit, and sets before us an entirely new aim. Though it is in many respects tentative, it does open many doors; it leaves open the possibility of great achievements when the public conscience and the public will are sufficiently developed to seize those opportunities and realise the hopes of the friends of the people. The very first line of the Act asks for something that was never asked for before; it asks for nurture of the little children of the people. We have known the workman ask for education for his children, but he has never asked for nurture.

Now we are going to have nursery schools—preferably in the open air—for the children of the people, and nurture centres for little ones. I am not going to say much about them this evening, but I cannot pass them without a word, for the future of the adolescent and the adult will depend upon these. I do not want splendid buildings for the little children of this country; still less do I want centralised clinics or nurseries for people who will have to come four or five miles to reach them. I want nurseries scattered broadcast to the people's very doors. We do not want bricks and mortar; we want clothing, love, sympathy, and tendance, not for a few, but for all. Let the structure be humble or temporary so long as we win space to work in. We then can hope that when this generation emerges, after twenty-five years of such work, all its ideas regarding buildings will be transformed and idealised, and that it will put up homes of such beauty as we have not yet even begun to imagine.

Meantime, let us think, as during the war, in big figures. We want, say, four thousand nurseries at once, not ten or twenty. Bradford, we hope, will open twenty, with accommodation for, say, three thousand children. London should begin with fifty, and next year with five hundred nurseries of a similar character.

As regards the training colleges, no longer do we want our training colleges to be reminiscent of the cloister of the mediæval ages. We want to bring our training colleges into the slum. How can a soldier fight if he never goes near the enemy? My college is in one of the worst slums in London. The little children are there taught and nurtured in the open, under the eyes of thousands of mothers. A hundred windows overlook us, and we are glad of that. Our doors are open all day to mothers. That is why ours is a school for mothers as well as children.

When we first started this training college the Board of Education said: "How can we give you grants for a school in a slum? How can you get teachers to go down there to teach?" Do not our girls and women return from the battlefields, from France, Belgium, and Italy? Did not they go through all the hardships of this terrible war and serve in the bombed hospitals where men were dying and wounded? If so, why should not they go down

to the slums and make war hand to hand and heart to heart with the new enemy? The new enemy is vice, disease, ignorance, and it also has to be conquered.

There is a very large section of the young life of this country which can derive, or does derive, very little advantage from any system of scholarship or maintenance we devise or can devise. What sort of a system of education are you going to devise for the boy or girl of twelve or fourteen years who is just leaving school and who comes from the worst type of house? In the past we have made the mistake of putting up one type of school in all districts, believing it would serve the need and circumstances of every area. But certain areas require a different kind of treatment and a different kind of school. Many a boy or girl finds in his or her own home only a gray life, perhaps a black life, without the elements of culture or even common decency. If we are thinking of such children at all, surely the first thing we must give them is the thing they need most. To take them away from their homes is not the best way to do that. What we must do is to give them a semi-residential school which will offer just those things which they require most; and that has been done in the middle of the slums.

Eight years ago we started in Deptford with forty children. We started with a staff of teachers and night guardians. The children slept out. Some had suffered from preventible dirt diseases, some from anæmia, many had nervous disorders that came from overcrowding and lack of sleep. After a few months the medical officers said that the symptoms of nerve trouble and nervous disturbances which the children had shown before going there had disappeared. "None, not even the anæmic," said the doctors, "have profited like the nerve cases."

If that can be done for seventy children it can be done for seventy thousand, or seven hundred thousand. Does it cost a tremendous lot of money? Oh no; the poor themselves can help to raise the money. In London before the war there was a rate of £4 per head for the maintenance of ordinary school life. The parent can pay nearly all that, even though she be a member of the poorest class. A yearly £5 made all the difference before the war.

For £10 we could educate and feed a child, and the parents paid nearly all necessary to meet the cost of the food. In the "Rachel McMillan Open-air School" in Deptford, which takes about one hundred of the poorest children in this poorest of districts, I got last year £410 from the parents. They paid that for the children's food, and this sum represented two-thirds of the whole cost of the food provided. Add that to the £4 to which I have already referred, and you will see there is no shadow of excuse for any child wastage at all. There is no financial problem. The cost for our present school buildings is £15 per head, but even to-day, with the soaring war prices of materials, we know that we could put up schools for £5 per head in capital expenditure, if we used pollite instead of bricks. Our buildings will cost less in future, or, at all events, never more than what they do at present. Surely, then, it is not, as I say, a question of finance; it is a question of human sympathy and intelligence. I am, of course, pleading for the poorer children, who are just as important as the children of the rich. Many of them are very gifted. How can we tell what every child is capable of till all are fed and all are healthy and in decent surroundings?

The first thing I lay down, then, as a suggestion, is that we try these camp schools and that we build a few of them in various towns. We shall have to build schools soon; why not give this type of school a chance? If it costs, as I said, so little, and the parents are willing to help, why should we ban an experiment or two? It will relieve the housing pressure. It will not remove children from the reach and neighbourhood of their parents. It will offer life to thousands of the new generation. Instead of offering scholarships which many children cannot very well use, and which many of the poorer school children cannot win, let us get all abreast of the well-to-do in nutrition and general health.

Look at these young creatures of twelve or fifteen years of age, and think what they are and what they want to be. They are in the adolescent stage of life. It must be a time of great idealism or degradation. There is no middle way. Only the sunlit path to glorious heights, or the black, steep slope to hell! Surely we ought to pity the young; life so suddenly becomes for them a new

thing with new colour, new interest, new powers. There has been nothing in their previous experience to prepare them for the great physiological changes that are taking place in them, nothing to guide them in the great new seas on which they now embark. It is the time when the churches rightly try to get hold of the young, when they invite the bewildered young things to choose aright, to take big vows and pledge themselves to a noble life. There is no savage tribe which does not take some care of its adolescents. Even the savage knows the future is at stake, and that unless the young are guided in some way they will be shipwrecked for life.

Why do we not, as a race, set ourselves to save all these young people? With what power it could be done! It could be worked out on a great scale. What do the young need? I have no hesitation in saying that they require a strong stimulus of beauty, a powerful impulse that will drive them into the higher currents of life. They want the best music, splendid pictures, wonderful poetry, dramatic tales; they need adventure and games; above all and in all, incessant appeals to the imagination until at last the young heart flames into purity and burns with white ardour of spiritual desire. There is no hope in mere precepts or mere repressions. If we cannot offer them centres of culture, such as I have touched on, they will find vivid sensations elsewhere.

We cannot go on sacrificing the young any more for the sake of money. Let us take those continuation schools, staff and equip them so that they will draw like magnets and hold like anchors. Let us engage the best teachers of music, drama, sculpture, painting, and enrol into this new service the stars not only of the artistic world, but of the social world also, with the powers of rostrum and pulpit, theatre and studio, class-room and field. I have made a beginning myself. I have engaged one of the finest pupils of Rosina Fillipi to train my student-teacher girls at the Rachel McMillan Centre. These have an artist's training superimposed on that of a teacher. Interpret the new Act in this same spirit. Here it is, a mere skeleton, if you will. Clothe it with warm life and glowing beauty. Aspire to draw in new orders of teachers, to enflame the hearts of youth with new hopes and new ideals.

Then there are the great classic writers and books, which are so dreadfully neglected. Why cannot we reach out to them and provide classical teachers for the new continuation schools? Does anyone believe we have no classical minds in the millions of young people that quit our schools? The classics have a great educative influence on the human mind; they not only produce good scholars, their humanistic training produces good workmen. Splendid foremen, farmers, and bankers, as well as teachers, have been trained by the reading of classics. The ability won may be used, not in one direction only, but in many. Yet in England the classics are considered to be of no good to the working-man's child! I suggest that the doors to the higher branches of learning should be opened wide, or at least kept ajar, for all the children of the people. Let us start classes for the study of Greek and Latin, and open theatres for the representation of Greek plays, and let our own boys and girls act under capable masters. Why not launch forth at once?

Germany has shown us the way not to train children by specialising them from the cradle, forcing the poor to be peasants and workmen, and forcing other children to be leaders and teachers. Only 7 per cent of her children ever went into the Realschule; only 3 per cent ever got into the Gymnasia. We have done no better although our sinning is less deliberate. We do not fit children to a given calling like the Germans, but we let the greater number fall away through neglect.

Let us as co-operators be honest, and confess that if Mr. Fisher's Act is a little tentative in its proposals it is not altogether the fault of its framers. Who was it that made Mr. Fisher tremble when he began to speak about raising the age at which children could leave school? It was the men of Lancashire. It was they who were afraid to go too fast. They were afraid to lose the earnings of their boys and girls. They did not and do not look far enough ahead. These boys and girls are going to be more than workmen and tradesmen. Are they not human souls? Are they not going on a journey whose goal we cannot see? Why, then, do we make them develop their gifts only as a means of livelihood? They are either preparing, not for one life but for an infinity of lives, or else they are on the level of the brutes that perish. The

industrial masters of the nineteenth century denied in practice that they were spiritual entities. We affirm that they are such. This Act affirms and implies it. But if we interpret it meanly, if we engage only tired or even mediocre teachers, we hark back to the methods of the old manufacturers who used the young as mere tools for physical ends.

"But you are deserting the people now," you will perhaps say, "with your classical teachers, your great artists enrolled as instructors of youth, your wonderful new staffing of continuation schools and central schools, your Greek theatres, and your nursery school teachers trained by specialists." No, I am not going back on the people's schools. There is no hope for us to-day if our elementary school teachers will not go forth as the heart, and the front and head of our army. Forgive me if I say it. All other teachers look finniking besides them, for none but they know the abyss, and the light so often swayed and blown that rises from it. In the new schools, in the new continuation and upper grade schools, they must be as heads and principals, not as subordinates. True, they will one day learn much from the (in some ways) more favoured teachers. They must learn and continue to learn from all who can teach, from outside people who have other experiences as from specialists. Many will become specialists themselves in time. The army of elementary school teachers have given proof of their power to grapple with difficult situations. They are the leaders who will meet the bristling spears of coming armies. Difficulties do not affright them. They will not fail in the future, but will go forward and win new battles on the fields outlined in the new Act.

Meanwhile, we have rapidly to build schools having a new order of building, space, light, shelter, gardens, and baths with a hot water supply. Educated labour we have to get somehow and rapidly, for the old kind of service is not only costly but very poor. Let us train our young teachers and equip them for the slums. Let us put the best of our teachers in the hottest fire; but let them go there equipped. Our syllabus in this first college provides for their training. Already the slum is running from them; the victory is near. Slums will disappear, vice will disappear,

disease will disappear. Public-houses even will yield to the up-rush of a new life. The teacher shall be the great social missionary. We shall have at last a great democracy, founded not on slavery, not on serfdom, but on equality of opportunity and co-operation for all.

At the close of the address, the Chairman described it as "the most inspiring and best I have ever heard."



Resolutions of the Central Board.

ADOPTED AT ITS SPECIAL MEETING ON
11TH AND 12TH APRIL, 1919.

1. The late Mr. G. Bisset.

That we place on record our appreciation of the services rendered by the late Mr. G. Bisset, member of the Scottish Sectional Board, and express our deep sympathy with his family in their bereavement.

2. Subscription to the Agricultural Organisation Society.

That the action of the United Board in withholding any further subscription to the Agricultural Organisation Society be approved.

3. Co-operative War Memorial.

That we ask Congress to approve the principle of a War Memorial to be raised by the co-operative movement.

4. Employees' Thrift Fund.

That we approve the formation of the fund, and that Messrs. F. Hayward, J. P. Davies, W. Gregory, and G. Riddle be our representatives upon it.

5. Eligibility of Employees to serve on Management Committees.

That the question be adjourned pending a report by the General Co-operative Survey Committee.

6. Eligibility of members of the Staff to become candidates for Parliament.

That any employee of the Union shall be at liberty to seek election to Parliament as a co-operative candidate, but that the question of his position in the event of election be the subject of further consideration.

7. Conditions of Co-operative Employment.

That a circular or letter be sent to all societies, suggesting that, as a condition of employment, every employee who is eligible shall be a member of a trade union (recognised for affiliation to the Trades Union Congress) covering the whole of his or her respective trade, occupation, or calling, and that the trade union rates of pay and conditions of employment be granted to all co-operative societies' employees.

8. Staff Conferences.

That in future quarterly conferences of representatives of the United Board and the chief officials of the Union be held (including all sectional secretaries)

and that if experience proves the necessity of meeting oftener, arrangements be made accordingly.

9. Land Nationalisation.

That the Co-operative Congress at Carlisle be recommended to include in its programme the nationalisation of the land.

10. Work of the Central Education Committee.

That, provided Congress agrees to increase the rate of subscriptions to the Union, the Central Education Committee be requested to proceed immediately with the development of their work, the United Board to be consulted before definite action is taken.

11. Centralisation of the Union's activities in London.

That the matter be remitted to the United Board.

12. Joint Industrial Council for the Bakery Trade.

That this matter be left in the hands of our representatives.

13. Chairmanship of the Central Board.

That at the Central Board meeting on the Tuesday in Congress week, sectional boards be asked to make their nominations, and that ballot papers be sent out as soon as possible after Congress, so that the election may be held before the first meeting of the United Board, which takes place a month after Congress.

14. The Barrhead Case.

That the expenses of the case be defrayed by the Union, and that the solicitors be asked to frame a rule to enable societies to use their profits for political or other purposes.

15. New Scottish Premises.

That the proposal of the Scottish Sectional Board to invite the Scottish National Conference to provide funds for the purpose of establishing a new Scottish Central Office be approved.

16. Report to Congress.

That the Report to Congress, as now amended, be approved.

17. Resolutions to be submitted to Congress.

(a) Joint Parliamentary Committee: That the amendments to the report of this committee, as now submitted, be adopted, and that the resolutions re "Ministry of Food" and "Food Control" be agreed to for submission to Congress.

(b) Reconstitution of Joint Parliamentary Committee: That a resolution adopting the new scheme be submitted to Congress.

(c) National Co-operative Representation Committee: That the resolutions dealing with (a) Proportional Representation, (b) New Democratic or People's Party, (c) "Conscription," and (d) Co-operative Party, as submitted by this committee, be adopted for Congress.

(d) Inter-Allied Conference: That the three resolutions suggested by our representatives to the Inter-Allied Conference, held in Paris, *re* (a) Appeal on behalf of societies in war-devastated areas, (b) Establishment of International Co-operative Bureau of Statistics, and (c) International Trading Relationships, be approved.

18. Resolutions from Societies to be submitted to Congress.

That the resolutions be accepted, with the exception of the one from Northampton, and that the Society be informed it is out of order, as it is an amendment to the constitution of the committee, which can only be made in a constitutional manner.

19. Representation of the National Co-operative Representation Committee at Congress.

That, as representation at Congress is governed by the rules of the Union, we regret the request of the Committee cannot be granted, nor can we agree to an amendment of rules to accomplish this.

20. Next Meeting.

That the next meeting be held at Carlisle, on Saturday, June 7th, at 9-30 a.m.

ADOPTED AT ITS MEETING BEFORE CONGRESS, 7TH JUNE, 1919.

1. Knighthood of Sir T. W. Allen.

That we send our hearty congratulations to Sir T. W. Allen on the knighthood conferred upon him.

2. Grants to Women's Guilds.

That the annual grant of £400 to the English Women's Guild be renewed, and that the grants to the Scottish and Irish Guilds be renewed also. Further, that if Congress agrees to the increased rate of subscription to the Union, the grants to the Scottish and Irish Guilds be increased from £175 to £200 and £50 to £75 respectively.

3. Scottish Men's Guild.

That the reply of the General Secretary to the Scottish District Council of the National Men's Guild be approved, and that no grant be made to this body.

4. Special Committee on Income Tax.

That, as desired by the Joint Parliamentary Committee, we agree to Mr. T. Brodrick, J.P., being added to the Special Committee of Inquiry on Income Tax.

5. Resolutions for submission to Congress.

That action be taken as now agreed when the resolutions sent in by societies are submitted to Congress.

6. Union Accounts.

That the letter received from the auditor, calling attention to the fact that the expenditure of the Union during the past year exceeded its income by £2,000, be referred to the Office Committee.

7. International Trading.

That we agree to support the amendment sent in by the Productive Federation, that a representative be appointed by that organisation to attend the suggested conference of wholesale societies for the consideration of international trading.

8. Report of Survey Committee.

That we recommend Congress to adopt the following resolutions, viz. :—

- (a) That the reports of the General Survey Committee be received.
- (b) That the Central Board be instructed to arrange for the several reports to be discussed at specially-convened sectional and district conferences to be held within a period of six months.
- (c) That the Publications Committee be instructed to issue the reports in suitable form, and to prepare literature in pamphlet form explanatory of the proposals and recommendations made by the Survey Committee; and
- (d) That a special Congress be held in February, 1920, for the purpose of
 - (i.) Adopting or otherwise the proposals and recommendations included in the reports of the General Survey Committee submitted to this and preceding Congresses, any resolutions of the district and sectional conferences and societies referred to above being circulated to societies along with the notice convening the special Congress, and
 - (ii.) Instructing the Central Board to prepare the necessary alterations of the rules of the Co-operative Union as may be necessary to make them harmonise with the recommendations of rules to be submitted to the 1920 Congress.

9. Reconstitution of Joint Parliamentary Committee.

That, if Congress adopts the suggestion to remit the report of the General Survey Committee to a special Congress, we recommend that the report with

regard to the reconstitution of the Joint Parliamentary Committee should also be adjourned to such special Congress.

10. Coal Supplies.

That the Standing Orders Committee be requested to arrange for a resolution to be submitted to Congress dealing with the question of coal supplies.

ADOPTED AT ITS MEETING DURING CONGRESS, 10TH JUNE, 1919.

1. Appointment of Committees.

(a) OFFICE COMMITTEE.—That the sectional boards be asked to nominate their representatives to serve on the Office Committee, the names to be submitted to the United Board at its first meeting for adoption.

(b) EDUCATION COMMITTEE.—That the sectional boards and other organisations concerned be empowered to appoint their representatives to serve on this committee.

(c) JOINT PROPAGANDA COMMITTEE.—That the Midland Section be requested to appoint one and the North-Western Section two representatives to act on this committee.

(d) ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF TRADE UNIONISTS AND CO-OPERATORS.—That Mrs. Gasson, and Messrs. W. Millerchip, G. Goodenough, W. R. Blair, D. Williams, and M. H. Clear be appointed to serve on this committee.

(e) NATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE REPRESENTATION COMMITTEE.—That the appointment of representatives to serve on this committee be remitted to the sectional boards with power to act.

2. Representation at the Trades Union Congress.

That the Scottish Sectional Board appoint a representative to attend the Trades Union Congress to be held in Glasgow.

3. Representation at the National Union of Teachers' Conference.

That the appointment of a delegate to attend this conference be referred to the board of the section in which the conference will be held.

4. Chairmanship of the Central Board.

That Messrs. W. H. Bryant, F. Hayward, and W. R. Rae be nominated to act as chairman of the Central Board; that voting papers be sent to each member of the board; and that the election be conducted on the principle of the single transferable vote.

5. Representation at Foreign Congresses.

That the Union be represented at the Swedish and Swiss Co-operative Congresses, to be held during the month of June, that the invitations to appoint representatives be remitted to the sections concerned, and that they be empowered to make the appointments.

6. Special Meeting of the Central Board.

That a meeting of the Central Board be held in Manchester, on Friday, 29th August, at 5-30 p.m., and on Saturday, 30th August, at 9 a.m., to consider the report of the General Co-operative Survey Committee.

7. The Co-operative Congress for 1920.

That in view of the meagre accommodation offered in Torquay we recommend the delegates to vote for Bristol as the best place in which to hold next year's Congress

8. Arrangements for the Carlisle Congress.

That we express our thanks and appreciation to the committee and officials of the Carlisle Society for the efforts which they have made, under difficult circumstances, to cater for the requirements of the delegates attending this year's Congress.



Resolutions passed at the Carlisle Congress,

9th, 10th, and 11th JUNE, 1919.

1. The Co-operative College.

That this Congress, realising the value and necessity of education on co-operative lines as a means of fostering co-operation in all its aspects and assisting the establishment of a Co-operative Commonwealth, approves the work of the Central Education Committee and the proposed development of its activities, including the establishment of a Co-operative College; and is of the opinion that the committee should be provided with the necessary staff and financial assistance to develop its work on the lines indicated in the report to Congress.

2. Economic Reconstruction.

That, in view of the great services rendered during the war to all the nations by organised co-operation, which has proved itself to be the best means of securing the equitable distribution of necessaries at reasonable prices, this Congress calls upon the British Government to take all necessary steps to secure the continuance and extension of the application of the co-operative principle to its plans of economic reconstruction; and, further, that the reforms automatically secured by the operation of D.O.R.A.—especially those relating to sales by net weight or measure, standards, and tests of quality, exhibition of prices—should at once receive permanent legislative sanction.

3. The Ministry of Food.

That this Congress records its appreciation of the services rendered to the community by the Ministry of Food during the war. It recognises the enormous difficulties under which the Ministry has laboured, but views with grave concern the proposal to abolish the Ministry and to distribute its functions amongst the older Departments of the State. The Congress therefore strongly urges upon the Government the necessity of continuing the Ministry as a permanent Department charged with the maintenance of proper and adequate supplies, and such other measures, essential alike in war or peace, as may be necessary to prevent profiteering and the exploitation of consumers.

4. Imperial Preference.

That this Congress strongly protests against the action of the Chancellor of the Exchequer in taking advantage of the present Budget to introduce the old bad principle of Protection under the guise of Imperial Preference, and calls upon the Government to institute a full inquiry into our fiscal system, in order to secure the freest possible exchange of commodities in the interests of consumers the world over, and as a means of establishing an enduring peace.

5. Proportional Representation.

That this Congress strongly approves of the principle of proportional representation in both Parliamentary and Local Government elections, and demands that, when municipal elections are resumed, the whole of each council shall vacate their seats and the new council be elected on the principle of proportional representation.

6. Proposed People's Party.

(a) That this Congress, whilst recognising the success attending the efforts made to secure direct representation in Parliament and on local governing bodies has fully justified the decisions of the Swansea Congress and the London Emergency Conference, yet believes that the time has arrived for the establishment of a closer relationship between all democratic organisations in the common interest. It, therefore, instructs the National Co-operative Representation Committee to negotiate with the Labour Party and Trades Union Congress Parliamentary Committee with a view to a federation for electoral purposes, and with the ultimate object of forming a United Democratic or People's Party.

(b) This Congress also directs the Central Board to take the necessary steps to ensure adequate discussion by the movement of any proposals to this end, jointly agreed upon by the above-mentioned parties, before submission to Congress, and for such purpose to convene a special conference, or conferences, if found desirable.

7. Conscription.

That this Congress emphatically declares its unqualified opposition to the policy of conscription as applied to this country, and resolves to use every effort to bring about the repeal of the existing conscription laws.

8. The Co-operative Party.

That the scheme for securing direct representation, adopted at the Liverpool Congress, 1918, be amended, in order to allow the political activities undertaken by the National Co-operative Representation Committee to be designated the Co-operative Party.

9. Honorary Members of the Central Board.

That the following gentlemen be appointed as honorary members of the Central Board for the ensuing Congress year :—

Irish Section : Mr. R. Fleming.

Midland Section : Messrs. E. L. Griffiths, D. M'Innes, S. Redfern, W. W. Smith, and G. Woodhouse.

Northern Section : Messrs. H. R. Bailey, W. Crooks, and J. Murdoch.

North-Western Section : Mr. H. Stuttard.

Scottish Section : Messrs. J. Allan, D. H. Gerrard, and A. Meldrum.

Southern Section : Messrs. A. H. D. Acland, A. W. Golightly, E. O. Greening, A. Hainsworth, H. J. May, and H. Rowsell.

South-Western Section : Messrs. A. Bullock and H. Westbury.

Western Section : Mr. E. R. Wood.

10. Subscriptions to the Union.

That the rate of subscription to the Union be increased from 1½d. to 2d. per member in the case of distributive co-operative societies.

11. National Co-operative War Memorial.

That this Congress approves the provision of a National Co-operative War Memorial, and instructs the Central Board to prepare a scheme, or schemes, and submit same to the society-members at the earliest opportunity.

12. Co-operation in War-Devastated Areas.

That this Congress heartily supports the appeal issued by the Union to societies on behalf of the co-operative movement in the areas devastated by the war, and calls upon every British society to accord it the most generous assistance within their power.

13. International Co-operative Bureau.

That this Congress approves of the establishment of an International Co-operative Bureau of Statistical and Commercial Information.

14. International Co-operative Trading.

That this Congress urges the necessity of setting up international trading relationships between the different countries, and to this end asks that a conference of wholesale societies and the Co-operative Productive Federation should be convened with a view to establishing close commercial relations between the co-operators of the world.

15. General Co-operative Survey Committee.

- (a) That the reports of the General Co-operative Survey Committee be received ;

- (b) That the Central Board be instructed to arrange for the several reports to be discussed at specially-convened sectional and district conferences, to be held within a period of six months;
- (c) That the Publications Committee be instructed to issue the reports in suitable form, and to prepare literature in pamphlet form explanatory of the proposals and recommendations made by the Survey Committee; and
- (d) That a Special Congress be held in February, 1920, for the purpose of—
 - (i.) Adopting, or otherwise, the proposals and recommendations included in the reports of the General Survey Committee submitted to this and preceding Congresses, any resolutions of the district and sectional conferences and societies referred to above being circulated to societies along with the notice convening the Special Congress; and
 - (ii.) Instructing the Central Board to prepare the necessary alterations of the rules of the Co-operative Union as may be necessary to make them harmonise with the recommendations as approved by the Special Congress, these alterations of rules to be submitted to the 1920 Congress.

16. Consolidated Reserve Fund.

That this Congress approves the principle of a Co-operative Consolidated Reserve Fund, and requests the Central Board to consider its application and report to a future congress.

17. Land Nationalisation.

That this Congress considers that the present system of private property in land ought to be abolished, inasmuch as it hampers production, taxes industry for the benefit of non-workers, makes land difficult of access and insecure of tenure. It also causes overcrowding, checks public improvement, and gives to irresponsible private individuals injurious power over the lives and liberties of others. This Congress therefore demands that the land be made national property, under the administration of representative local authorities, so that it may be put to the best use in the interests of the whole community.

18. Pensions for Co-operative Employees.

That this Congress approves the principle of the establishment by the movement of a national fund for the superannuation of its employees.

19. Strikes affecting Co-operative Employees.

That, in the opinion of this Congress, the time has arrived when definite conditions as to co-operative employees being permitted to remain at work during any strike in which any group or groups of employees are called upon

to cease work in sympathy with others, should be agreed upon between organised labour and co-operative societies; and it calls upon the Co-operative Union to approach the Trades Union Congress, through the Joint Committee, or otherwise, with a view to such conditions being formulated and put into practice as early as possible.

20. District Conciliation Boards.

That the constitution of the District Conciliation Boards be amended so as to preclude persons sitting as members of the Conciliation Board who have previously been negotiating with the cases when before the societies, or Hours and Wages Board. Also that provision be made for an independent chairman to be brought in to preside over the Board, with power to vote.

21. The Co-operative College: Appeal for Funds.

That this Congress is of opinion that a Co-operative College is essential to the welfare and development of the co-operative movement, and that no worthier memorial of the Peace and of those co-operators who have served and fallen in the war could be established than an institution for the dissemination of the principles of co-operation and harmony in industrial and international relationships. It therefore instructs the Central Board to organise a fund forthwith for the establishment of such a college, to which co-operators and co-operative organisations may be invited to subscribe.

22. Co-operative Parliamentary Representation (Scotland).

(a) That the organising of the co-operative vote in every possible constituency in Scotland and the carrying forward of propaganda effort to promote this organisation be remitted to the Scottish Parliamentary Representation Committee and the ten District Defence Committees. And, further, that this work be carried on in the closest harmony with the National Co-operative Parliamentary Representation Committee, reports being forwarded to it from time to time.

(b) That the selection of candidates be left in the hands of the local councils, along with the Scottish Parliamentary Representation Committee, subject to the vote of the National Parliamentary Representation Committee.

(c) That a sum be allocated from the Central Fund to the Scottish Parliamentary Representation Committee to meet expenses.

23. Coal Supplies.

That, in view of the probable shortage in the coal supplies of the country, and the consequent suffering to the poorest part of the community if such limited supplies are left to haphazard methods of distribution, this Congress calls upon the Government to at once take steps to provide that the distribution of coal during the coming winter shall be made to co-operative societies according to registration, and not upon the antiquated datum period.

24. Nationalisation of the Coal Mines.

That this Congress believes the system of private ownership and exploitation of the country's resources in the coal mines has been proved to be unjust by the evidence already given before the Coal Commission, that it is injurious to the economic stability of the nation, and that it should be replaced by national ownership and control. It therefore urges co-operative societies to join in the demand for nationalisation, and to communicate their wishes to the Chairman of the Coal Commission.

25. Agricultural Co-operation.

That, in view of the unsatisfactory relations now existing between the Agricultural Organisation Society and the industrial co-operative movement, this Congress instructs the Central Board to consider the advisability of setting up a special agricultural committee for the purpose of organising co-operative societies for small farmers.

26. The Housing Problem.

That this Congress protests—

- (i.) Against the Government devolving solely upon local authorities the duty of providing houses, which are a natural necessity if an Al population is desired; as it can be secured in a generation if proper housing conditions are given.
- (ii.) Against the unnecessary delays in commencing the provision of houses for the working classes.
- (iii.) That no standard of housing and time-limit for doing the work has been set for the reconstruction of existing housing accommodation.
- (iv.) That the terms offered to public utility societies are absurdly inadequate, and only demonstrate that the Government are insincere in their housing proposals and desire to rehabilitate private enterprise and a so-called economic rent, irrespective of the results on the domestic and moral lives of the people.

And we demand that the work of erecting healthy and commodious houses for the people be proceeded with at once, at rentals to be fixed on a basis of pre-war standards.

We condemn the policy of the Government in respect of housing, designed as it is to provide that private enterprise shall undertake the work in the near future.

27. Alteration to Rules.

That Rule 10 be amended as follows, viz. :—Clause 2, delete "1912" and substitute "1920." Line 5, delete "1½d." and substitute "2d."

28. Auditor.

That Mr. T. Wood (Manchester) be appointed to audit the accounts of the Union for the ensuing year.

29. Next Place of Meeting.

That the Congress of 1920 be held at Bristol during Whit-week.

30. Votes of Thanks.

That this Congress expresses its sincere appreciation and thanks to the Mayor of Carlisle for his cordial welcome to the delegates on Monday, to the reverend gentlemen who conducted special services on Sunday, to the artistes and speakers who have assisted in making the evening meetings a success, to the Reception Committee and the local societies for their arduous and successful efforts to provide for the comfort and entertainment of the delegates, and to the Press for their reports of the Congress proceedings.



STATISTICS
OF
SOCIETIES' TRADE, &c.,
FOR THE YEAR 1918.

REVIEW OF THE

Annual Co-operative Statistics

FOR THE YEAR 1918.

INTRODUCTORY.

In order that the statistics given in the following pages may be correctly understood a few words by way of explanation of their value and qualifications may be useful. Following the practice of previous years, separate figures for the various types of societies in each section are given in each sectional summary in the body of the statistics, whilst comparisons with the figures for last year are given for each section in this introduction.

Membership.—In reading the statistics it is well to notice the various types of society in the movement, and in estimating the progress of the movement to follow each type separately rather than the whole collectively. The membership of the retail distributive societies forms the best basis in estimating the growth of membership. The *total* membership of the movement includes the members of the productive societies and of the wholesale societies; and the membership of these societies includes other societies and individual members who are already counted in the membership of retail distributive societies. Comparisons between different societies and districts should be made cautiously, as some societies allow only one in a household to be a member of the society, whilst other societies allow open membership. This factor also affects the average capital per member and average sales per member.

Capital.—The capital figures of the movement require careful discrimination. The capital of the wholesale societies is principally provided by the retail distributive societies; and much of that of the productive societies is similarly provided, so that when the capital of all types of societies is added together, as in the grand summary and sectional summaries, some of the capital is counted more than once. The loan capital credited to retail distributive societies includes loans deposited by members, penny-bank deposits (over £3,400 000), bank overdrafts, and sundry items, such as sales-club deposits, and employees' surety deposits. From the point of view of the society all these are capital employed in working the business; but only a part of it—approximately £2,600,000—represents members' claims for loan capital proper. An analysis of the figures of aggregate loan capital at the end of 1916 was given in an appendix to the Third Report of the Survey Committee

included in last year's Congress Report, and a further table showing the corresponding figures at the end of 1918 is given in this Review (p. 607).

Trade.—The total trade of the movement includes both wholesale and retail trade. The best test of the command over the consumers' demand is, therefore, the sales of the retail distributive societies; whilst the sales of the wholesale societies and productive societies give approximate data showing how far societies are supplying themselves from these co-operative sources. It should be remembered, however, in this connection that the sales of the wholesale societies and productive societies are given at wholesale prices, and those of the retail societies are given at retail prices. Also, it should be noted that a small proportion of the sales of the wholesale and productive societies consists of sales to purchasers other than retail societies, whilst the sales of the productive societies to the wholesale societies are counted twice over, once when the productive societies sell goods to the wholesale societies, and again when the wholesales re-sell these goods.

Production.—The figures given in the summaries show the value of some of the productions emanating from co-operative factories; but the productions of retail societies are not shown. The retail societies produce nearly as much as all other productive agencies put together (*vide* the Report of the Survey Committee as presented to the Lancaster Congress). In estimating the value of productions, further caution must be exercised. The output from the tea estates and other undertakings jointly owned by the two wholesales is not included in the value of the wholesales' productions though included in their distributive trade. The flour milled by the wholesale societies counts twice over when used by the bakeries of any productive or distributive society. Transfers from one wholesale factory to another factory also count twice in the returns.

The number of workers engaged in production is one of the best tests of the development of production; but this is not entirely satisfactory either, for statistics show that the output per worker was increasing prior to the war and has recently been affected by reduction of working hours per week; whilst values are not satisfactory owing to changes in prices.

Profits or Surplus.—These are the figures of profit or surplus before the share interest has been deducted. Interest on loan capital has been deducted, so that profits would appear greater if societies had less loan capital and a corresponding increase in share capital.

Owing for Goods.—The figures given under this heading include not only the ordinary members' debts, but amounts owing to productive departments on contracts and amounts owing for goods supplied on the hire-purchase system. It is probably the case that members' debts are reduced at the end of each trading period by societies requiring members to clear their accounts before the books are closed; and the amount is probably higher at other times during the quarter or half year.

THE FIGURES FOR 1918.

The statistics issued in the following pages show that the movement during the year 1918 again made considerable progress. There has been a considerable increase in membership (58,041), but the increase is much less than in the immediately preceding years, probably due to the system of registration, which has hindered transfers to co-operative societies. There has been a record increase in the amount of share capital and loan capital (including deposits in the banks for small savings). For this increase in the amount of capital a partial explanation lies in the fact that a large number of societies have during recent years amended their rules by removing various kinds of restrictions which either restricted or prevented members from accumulating the full amount of capital permitted by the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts. Societies are now beginning to reap the benefit of these alterations and of the great increase of membership in recent years. Against these factors, must be considered the reduction of dividends, which has been fairly general throughout the movement, and which has doubtless had some influence upon the accumulation of capital, though the reduction in the rate per £ has been to some extent made up by the increased sales per member due to higher prices. The average capital per member reaches a new record, the decline in 1917 having been more than recovered. Retail trade shows an increase of over £13,000,000 (as compared with £20,000,000 in 1917). The average sales per member £40 7s. in 1918, compare with £37 10s. in 1917. Stocks again show an increase in value, probably partly due, like the increase of sales, to higher prices. The reserve funds for the movement as a whole show an increase of about 13 per cent on the amount of these funds for last year. Net profits for the movement as a whole show a decrease of about £500,000. The total distributive trade of the movement (wholesale and retail) shows an increase of about £24,000,000.

The total number of workers in the movement at the end of 1918 is given as 164,383, as compared with 162,503 at the end of 1917, an increase of 1,880. The number engaged in production and distribution respectively, and the comparison with previous years, are given in the following table:—

Year.	Total Workers.	ENGAGED IN				WAGES.	
		Production.		Distribution.		Productive.	Distributive
		Number.	Per cent of total.	Number.	Per cent of total.		
1914.....	148,264	63,275	42·63	84,989	57·32	£ 3,984,783	£ 5,228,681
1915.....	155,879	66,486	42·79	88,893	57·21	4,269,017	5,659,909
1916....	158,715	62,401	39·32	96,314	60·68	4,546,874	6,291,201
1917.....	162,503	61,404	37·79	101,099	62·21	4,876,614	7,210,239
1918.....	164,383	62,401	37·96	101,982	62·04	5,915,254	8,819,080

The percentage of total employees to membership of retail distributive societies—which gives an indication of the extent to which we are employing our own members—was 4·85 per cent at the end of 1914; 4·76 per cent at the end of 1915; 4·51 per cent at the end of 1916; 4·29 per cent at the end of 1917; and 4·27 per cent at the end of 1918.

We regret to say that, owing to the staffs of societies not having been restored to the normal since the conclusion of hostilities, a number of returns have not been received and the completeness and accuracy of the statistics have been affected thereby. Where they are available the figures for last year have been given as providing the best information available. We propose, now, to review the activities of the various types of societies. Comparative figures for the various districts and sections are given in the pages following this introductory review.

RETAIL DISTRIBUTIVE SOCIETIES.

MEMBERSHIP.

Last year we were able to record that the increase in membership for 1917 (268,263) created a record. The increase for 1918 was less satisfactory and amounted to only 58,041. The smaller increase was probably due to the system of registration for supplies and the difficulty of securing transfers. The total membership at the end of 1918 was 3,846,531. The Scottish Section shows the largest increase, with 18,127 additional members.

MEMBERSHIP OF RETAIL DISTRIBUTIVE SOCIETIES.

SECTION.	1916.	1917.	1918.	Increase for year 1918.
	Number.	Number.	Number.	
Irish	26,329	30,252	31,444	1,192
Midland	472,185	502,054	510,054	8,000
Northern	403,354	435,576	438,834	3,258
North-Western	1,951,308	1,424,065	1,432,433	8,368
Scottish	514,327	557,258	575,385	18,127
Southern	482,085	531,847	539,574	7,727
South-Western	136,498	154,537	163,066	8,529
Western	134,141	152,901	155,741	2,840
United Kingdom	3,520,227	3,788,490	3,846,531	58,041

SHARE CAPITAL.

The share capital of the retail distributive societies shows an increase of £5,465,176 for 1918, as compared with an increase of £1,420,846 in 1917. The increase for 1918 is a record; and the average share capital per member, which showed a decline to £12·82 in 1917, also reached a record (£14·05) in 1918.

SHARE CAPITAL OF RETAIL DISTRIBUTIVE SOCIETIES.

SECTION.	1916.		1917.		1918.	
	Total.	Average per Member.	Total	Average per Member.	Total.	Average per Member.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Irish	216,406	8.22	224,718	7.43	255,236	8.12
Midland	5,864,702	12.42	6,303,101	12.55	7,251,401	14.22
Northern	6,357,489	15.76	6,505,839	14.94	7,194,857	16.40
North-Western ...	20,259,789	14.99	20,474,305	14.38	22,473,073	15.69
Scottish	7,134,290	13.87	7,202,502	12.92	7,877,897	13.69
Southern	4,553,273	9.44	4,903,528	9.22	5,534,804	10.26
South-Western	1,276,955	9.36	1,325,073	8.57	1,561,358	9.58
Western	1,490,299	11.11	1,634,983	10.69	1,890,599	12.14
United Kingdom	47,153,203	13.39	48,574,049	12.82	54,039,225	14.05

LOAN CAPITAL.

Loan capital also shows an increase, but comparisons in regard to loan capital are somewhat misleading, as the figures given as loan capital in the returns of retail distributive societies include bank overdrafts, penny-bank deposits, and sundry items not strictly members' loan capital. The penny-bank deposits, which, at the end of 1915, amounted to £2,168,063, were at the end of 1916 £2,547,191, £2,644,282 at the end of 1917, and £3,448,886 at the end of 1918. The detailed composition of the loan capital at the end of 1918 is given below in a table, which also shows the amount of transferable and withdrawable share capital at the same date. The amount of (gross) loan capital in the various sections at the end of 1918 and previous years is given in the following table:—

LOAN CAPITAL OF RETAIL DISTRIBUTIVE SOCIETIES.

SECTION.	1916.		1917.		1918.	
	Total.	Average per Member.	Total.	Average per Member.	Total.	Average per Member.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Irish	39,686	1.51	57,940	1.92	82,822	2.63
Midland	767,015	1.62	813,336	1.62	945,695	1.85
Northern	665,932	1.65	693,618	1.59	777,199	1.77
North-Western	1,793,762	1.33	1,919,043	1.35	2,201,592	1.54
Scottish	1,836,277	3.57	1,767,131	3.17	2,069,252	3.60
Southern	627,357	1.30	654,176	1.23	720,191	1.33
South-Western.	179,078	1.31	201,559	1.30	212,124	1.30
Western	260,042	1.94	253,641	1.66	346,608	2.23
United Kingdom	6,169,149	1.75	6,362,444	1.68	7,355,483	1.91

The following table shows the nature of the share and loan capital at the end of 1918 :—

TABLE SHOWING COMPOSITION OF SHARE AND LOAN CAPITAL OF RETAIL DISTRIBUTIVE SOCIETIES AT THE END OF 1918.

SECTION.	SHARE CAPITAL.			LOAN CAPITAL.		
	Trans-ferable Shares.	With-drawable Shares.	Total.	Small Savings	Bank Over-drafts.	Sales Clubs' Deposits.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1 Irish	16,966	238,270	255,236	3,936	24,086	2,954
2 Midland	216,743	7,034,658	7,251,401	553,160	60,138	25,219
3 Northern.....	354,648	6,840,209	7,194,857	203,496	206,235	10,239
4 North-Western ..	179,672	22,293,401	22,473,073	1,266,739	181,190	85,873
5 Scottish.....	305,578	7,572,319	7,877,897	754,169	1,793	8,574
6 Southern.....	302,185	5,232,619	5,534,804	406,738	58,875	28,243
7 South-Western...	36,205	1,525,153	1,561,358	110,082	44,252	8,207
8 Western	85,082	1,805,517	1,890,599	150,566	102,631	3,743
Total for U.K. ..	1,497,079	52,542,146	54,039,225	*3,448,886	679,200	173,052

	LOAN CAPITAL.							Total Share and Loan Capital.
	Loans and Interest.	C.W.S. House Purchase Scheme.	Mort-gages.	Em- ployees' G'ar'n'tee Deposits.	Tokens.	Sundries.	Total Loan Capital.	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1 ..	44,779	..	..	6,120	947	..	82,822	338,058
2 ..	262,210	31,041	937	6,052	6,928	10	945,695	8,197,096
3 ..	334,101	17,841	1,031	2,624	1,632	..	777,199	7,972,056
4 ..	562,523	38,132	5,886	43,922	15,161	2,166	2,201,592	24,674,665
5 ..	1,182,280	60	57,902	45,381	19,093	..	2,069,252	9,947,149
6 ..	157,363	54,960	2,740	3,105	8,067	100	720,191	6,254,995
7 ..	32,823	13,605	1,468	1 119	568	..	212,124	1,773,482
8 ..	43,203	41,771	817	807	3,070	..	346,608	2,237,207
	2,619,282	197,410	70,781	109,130	55,466	2,276	7,355,483	61,394,708

* In the early part of the Report (p. 135) the amount of small savings is given as £3,212,466, but by returns subsequently received the total is raised to £3,448,886 as shown above.

RESERVE FUNDS.

The reserve and insurance funds show an increase of about £750,000 for the year. The average per member, as well as the percentage relationship to capital, is higher than in any previous year.

RESERVE FUNDS OF RETAIL DISTRIBUTIVE SOCIETIES.

SECTION.	1917.				1918.			
	Total.	Per Member.	% of Share Capital.	% of Share and Loan Capital.	Total.	Per Member.	% of Share Capital.	% of Share and Loan Capital.
	£	£	%	%	£	£	%	%
Irish	24,954	·82	11·11	8·83	30,494	·97	11·95	9·02
Midland	352,915	·70	5·60	4·96	456,357	·89	6·29	5·57
Northern	332,460	·76	5·11	4·62	436,941	1·00	6·07	5·48
North-Western ..	1,188,579	·83	5·81	5·31	1,445,140	1·01	6·43	5·86
Scottish	1,009,909	1·81	14·02	11·26	1,121,236	1·95	14·23	11·27
Southern	350,927	·66	7·16	6·31	461,866	·86	8·34	7·38
South-Western ..	178,145	1·15	13·44	11·67	204,673	1·26	13·11	11·54
Western	157,088	1·03	9·61	8·32	186,565	1·20	9·87	8·34
United Kingdom.	3,594,977	·95	7·40	6·54	4,343,272	1·13	8·04	7·07

TRADE.

The figures of retail distributive trade again show an increase, though the increase is not as great as in some recent years, probably owing to the smaller increase of membership and the restrictions upon transfers of registrations for supplies. Whilst the trade for 1915 revealed a record increase of £15,000,000 over the figures for 1914, and the figures for 1916 revealed a greater increase of £19,000,000 over the figures for 1915, and the figures for 1917 show an even greater increase of £20,000,000 over 1916, the increase for 1918 over 1917 is only £13,000,000. A large part of these increases is undoubtedly due to increased membership and the high prices now prevailing, and not necessarily to increased individual loyalty. In fact, the increase in sales per member is not proportionate to the increase in prices during the war period, but the difficulties of securing supplies have no doubt prevented societies from selling as large a quantity of goods as would otherwise have been possible. The figures of sales are given in the following tables, from which it will be seen that the sales per member are still highest in the Scottish Section :—

SALES OF RETAIL DISTRIBUTIVE SOCIETIES.

SECTION.	1916.		1917.		1918.	
	Total.	Per Mem-ber.	Total.	Per Mem-ber.	Total.	Per Mem-ber.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Irish	877,816	33·34	1,170,998	38·71	1,328,213	42·24
Midland	13,975,722	29·60	16,768,829	33·40	18,126,755	35·54
Northern	17,017,284	42·19	19,752,053	45·35	21,930,755	49·97
North-Western ..	44,799,153	33·15	50,720,948	35·62	53,085,952	37·06
Scottish	24,065,214	46·79	28,702,591	51·51	32,654,903	56·75
Southern	12,425,005	25·77	14,102,269	26·52	15,746,883	29·18
South-Western ..	2,883,333	21·12	3,835,863	24·82	4,519,683	27·72
Western	5,645,023	42·08	6,950,061	45·45	7,768,819	49·88
United Kingdom	121,688,550	34·57	142,003,612	37·48	155,161,963	40·34

OWING FOR GOODS.

The amount owing for goods shows a slight decrease during 1918 for the movement as a whole, but some sections show an increase.

OWING FOR GOODS.

SECTION.	1916.		1917.		1918.	
	Amount.	Average per Member.	Amount.	Average per Member.	Amount.	Average per Member.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Irish	29,448	1·12	40,989	1·35	44,387	1·41
Midland	86,700	·18	77,496	·15	64,722	·13
Northern	280,016	·69	296,343	·68	278,106	·63
North-Western	352,615	·26	354,032	·25	284,340	·20
Scottish	502,993	·98	531,116	·95	539,076	·94
Southern	110,045	·23	86,448	·16	54,694	·10
South-Western	25,880	·19	25,009	·16	25,965	·16
Western	97,514	·73	96,380	·63	88,944	·57
United Kingdom	1,485,211	·42	1,507,813	·40	1,380,234	·36

WORKERS.

The number of workers employed by retail distributive societies at the end of 1918 was 119,629, as against 118,716 last year, an increase of 913. The following table shows their classification, their average wage, and wages cost of distribution per £ of retail sales. These figures are doubtless affected by the retention on the wage books of some employees who were serving with the Forces and receiving part wages from their society at the end of 1918.

NUMBER OF WORKERS AND WAGES IN RETAIL DISTRIBUTIVE SOCIETIES.

Year.	Total.		Classed as Engaged in Production.			
	Workers.	Wages.	Number.	Per cent of Total.	Wages.	Average Wage.
		£			£	£
1914	103,074	6,319,967	25,988	25·21	1,715,038	65·99
1915	109,449	6,749,725	28,555	26·09	1,821,413	63·79
1916	115,651	7,452,616	27,129	23·46	1,978,572	72·93
1917	118,716	8,465,663	26,012	21·91	2,110,154	81·12
1918	119,629	10,246,932	26,094	21·81	2,507,329	96·09

Year.	Classed as Engaged in Distribution.					
	Number.	Per cent of Total.	Wages.	Average Wage.	Average Sales per Distrib. Employee.	Dist. Wages Cost per £ of Sales.
			£	£	£	s. d.
1914 ..	77,086	74·79	4,604,929	59·74	1,141	1 0½
1915	80,894	73·91	4,928,312	60·92	1,268	0 11½
1916	88,522	76·54	5,474,044	61·84	1,375	0 10¾
1917	92,704	78·09	6,355,509	68·56	1,532	0 10¾
1918	93,535	78·19	7,739,603	82·75	1,659	0 11¾

PROFIT OR SURPLUS.

The profit or surplus for 1918 before paying share interest was £16,495,645 (as compared with £15,916,591 in 1917), and after paying share interest it was £14,265,370 (as compared with £13,897,746 in 1917). This profit, after paying share interest, represented 26·40 per cent of share capital and 9·19 per cent of retail sales, as compared with 28·61 per cent of share capital and 9·72 per cent of retail sales in 1917. The reduction is probably due, in part, to controlled prices and the policy of reducing prices to figures as near cost as possible. The following table shows comparisons with last year :—

PROFITS.

SECTION.	1917.			1918.		
	*Profit.	Per cent of Share Capital.	Per cent of Retail Sales.	*Profit.	Per cent of Share Capital.	Per cent of Retail Sales.
	£	%	%	£	%	%
Ireland	60,545	26·94	5·17	67,408	26·41	5·08
Midland	1,289,614	20·46	7·69	1,456,203	20·08	8·03
N rthern ...	2,066,214	31·76	10·46	2,096,466	29·14	9·56
North-Western ..	5,189,492	25·35	10·23	4,910,157	21·85	9·25
Scottish	3,543,768	49·20	12·35	3,775,948	47·93	11·56
Southern	848,916	17·31	6·02	1,030,652	18·62	6·55
South-Western ..	270,560	20·42	7·05	333,914	21·39	7·39
Western	628,637	38·45	9·05	594,622	31·45	7·65
United Kingdom	13,897,746	28·61	9·72	14,265,370	26·40	9·19

* After deduction of Share Interest.

DISTRIBUTIVE FEDERATIONS.

These societies are district federations formed for the purpose of buying goods wholesale and distributing them. Their activities show very little variation from last year.

PRODUCTIVE SOCIETIES.

(EXCLUSIVE OF THE WHOLESALE SOCIETIES.)

The productive societies shown in the statistics include some which are primarily associations of consumers and others which are primarily, but only in a few cases exclusively, associations of workers. The trade for the year 1918 shows an increase over that of 1917, due very largely to the higher prices now ruling and to the demand upon some of the boot societies for Army boots. The following tables give the principal points concerning these societies :—

	Number of Societies.	Number of Members.	Share Capital.	Loan Capital.	Trade.	Surplus.	Workers Engaged.	Wages
			£	£	£	£		£
1914.	108	36,880	987,613	834,736	3,800,627	276,792	10,725	613,555
1915.	103	34,912	842,691	845,427	3,860,052	316,896	10,657	634,921
1916.	101	35,142	869,210	902,394	4,461,491	333,842	10,284	732,106
1917.	97	36,358	899,485	905,469	5,146,459	359,740	10,038	766,846
1918.	95	37,393	1,181,906	792,573	5,714,041	398,602	9,745	912,785

Percentage of trade to trade of retail distributive societies .. 1914, 4.32 %

" " " .. 1915, 3.76 %

" " " .. 1916, 3.67 %

" " " .. 1917, 3.62 %

" " " .. 1918, 3.68 %

Average wage per worker 1914, £57.21

" " 1915, £59.58

" " 1916, £71.19

" " 1917, £76.39

" " 1918, £93.67

Output per worker 1914, £354

" 1915, £362

" 1916, £434

" 1917, £513

" 1918, £586

Wages cost of production per £ of sales..... 1914, 3s. 2½d.

" " 1915, 3s. 3½d.

" " 1916, 3s. 3½d.

" " 1917, 2s. 11½d.

" " 1918, 3s. 2½d.

SUPPLY ASSOCIATIONS.

The following are the statistics for the year 1918 and for the previous four years. The explanation of the drop in membership between 1914 and 1915 was given in the statistics issued last year. The Canteen and Mess Society has been taken over by the Government. This explains the diminution of trade in 1917.

	Number of Members.	Share Capital.	Loan Capital.	Trade.	Surplus.	Workers.	Wages.
		£	£	£	£		£
1914..	95,117	380,745	194,265	2,030,245	41,470	2,099	183,528
1915..	8,473	370,447	113,504	3,280,360	54,151	1,799	172,167
1916..	8,560	370,582	64,657	3,402,308	92,328	1,661	196,866
1917..	8,282	358,492	79,896	1,712,718	58,602	1,816	164,195
1918..	8,349	358,497	93,558	1,763,450	58,122	1,805	177,841

THE WHOLESALE SOCIETIES.

The statistics of the wholesale societies show that their progress has been in harmony with the general progress that has been taking place in the whole of the movement during the last year.

MEMBERSHIP, CAPITAL, AND TRADE.

The most noticeable feature in regard to the capital of the wholesale societies is the great increase in the amount of the loan capital of the Co-operative Wholesale Society. This figure includes deposits. The figures of trade show a considerable increase for all the wholesale societies. The statistics do not include the activities of the joint departments controlled by the English and Scottish Wholesale Societies, though the products of these joint departments appear in the distributive sales of the wholesale society through which they have been sold. It should be noted in reading the last two columns of the first four of the following tables, that wholesale trade has been taken at wholesale prices and retail trade at retail prices.

ENGLISH CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE SOCIETY.

MEMBERSHIP, CAPITAL, AND TRADE.

Year.	Member- ship.	Share Capital.	Loan Capital.	Total Share and Loan Capital.	Wholesale Distrib. Trade.	
					Value.	% of Retail Distrib. Trade in England, Wales, and Ireland.
		£	£	£	£	%
1914 ..	1,193	2,130,959	4,170,058	6,301,017	34,910,813	49.91
1915 ..	1,195	2,284,757	4,356,841	6,641,598	43,101,747	52.18
1916 ..	1,189	2,653,774	4,455,517	7,109,291	52,230,074	53.50
1917 ..	1,192	2,981,133	3,956,192	6,937,325	57,710,133	50.94
1918 ..	1,200	3,195,737	8,701,204	11,896,941	65,167,960	53.20

SCOTTISH CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE SOCIETY.

MEMBERSHIP, CAPITAL, AND TRADE.

Year.	Member-ship.	Share Capital.	Loan Capital.	Total Share and Loan Capital.	Wholesale Distrib. Trade.	
					Value.	% of Retail Distrib. Trade in Scotland.
		£	£	£	£	%
1914 ..	266	477,010	3,653,160	4,130,170	9,425,383	52·31
1915 ..	264	502,181	3,962,452	4,464,633	11,418,354	57·22
1916 ..	262	522,454	4,042,183	4,564,637	14,502,410	60·26
1917 ..	263	593,240	3,664,578	4,257,818	17,079,842	59·51
1918 ..	261	621,187	3,925,109	4,546,296	19,519,485	59·78

IRISH AGRICULTURAL WHOLESALE SOCIETY.

MEMBERSHIP, CAPITAL, AND TRADE.

Year.	Member-ship.	Share Capital.	Loan Capital.	Total Share and Loan Capital.	Wholesale Distrib. Trade.	
					Value.	
		£	£	£	£	
1914 ..	..	..	..	..	..
1915 ..	327	12,158	16,067	28,225	375,379	
1916 ..	381	15,819	49,699	65,518	479,877	
1917 ..	453	21,216	61,971	83,187	651,567	
1918 ..	511	25,975	90,486	116,461	914,242	

ENGLISH, SCOTTISH, AND IRISH WHOLESALE SOCIETIES TOGETHER.

MEMBERSHIP, CAPITAL, AND TRADE.

Year.	Member-ship.	Share Capital.	Loan Capital.	Total Share and Loan Capital.	Wholesale Distrib. Trade.	
					Value.	% of Retail Distrib. Trade in United Kingdom
		£	£	£	£	%
1914* ..	1,459	2,607,969	7,823,218	10,431,187	44,336,196	50·40
1915 ..	1,786	2,799,096	8,335,360	11,134,456	54,895,480	53·53
1916 ..	1,832	3,192,047	8,547,399	11,739,446	67,212,361	55·23
1917 ..	1,908	3,595,589	7,682,741	11,278,330	75,441,542	53·13
1918 ..	1,972	3,842,899	12,716,799	16,559,698	85,601,687	55·17

* English and Scottish Wholesale Societies only.

† Wholesale trade at wholesale prices, retail trade at retail prices.

EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES.

The following tables show that the number of workers employed by the wholesale societies is increasing in the case of the English and Irish Wholesale Societies; but there is a slight decrease in the case of the Scottish Wholesale Society. The average annual wage per employee continues to rise, the amount of the increase for 1918 being greater than in any previous year:—

ENGLISH CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE SOCIETY.

NUMBER OF WORKERS; AND WAGES PAID.

Year.	No. of Workers.	Wages.		Productive.			Distributive.		
		Amount.	Average per Employee.	No. of Workers.	Wages.		No. of Workers.	Wages.	
					Amount.	Average per Employee.		Amount.	Average per Employee.
		£	£		£	£		£	£
1914	23,190	1,539,354	66.38	19,991	1,209,887	60.52	3,199	329,467	102.99
1915	23,924	1,777,406	74.29	20,432	1,406,127	68.82	3,492	371,279	106.32
1916	22,215	1,819,727	81.91	18,673	1,430,054	76.58	3,542	389,673	110.01
1917	22,777	1,983,869	87.10	19,082	1,558,044	81.65	3,695	425,825	115.24
1918	24,100	2,529,137	104.94	20,304	1,992,814	98.15	3,793	536,323	141.29

SCOTTISH CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE SOCIETY.

NUMBER OF WORKERS; AND WAGES PAID.

Year.	No. of Workers.	Wages.		Productive.			Distributive.		
		Amount.	Average per Employee.	No. of Workers.	Wages.		No. of Workers.	Wages.	
					Amount.	Average per Employee.		Amount.	Average per Employee.
		£	£		£	£		£	£
1914	8,877	530,378	59.75	6,134	410,223	66.88	2,743	120,155	43.80
1915	9,103	554,634	60.93	7,215	433,920	60.14	1,888	120,714	63.94
1916	8,307	593,105	71.41	6,867	463,103	67.44	1,440	130,062	90.32
1917	8,522	655,874	76.96	6,977	509,720	73.06	1,545	146,154	94.60
1918	8,324	797,510	95.81	6,849	584,085	85.28	1,475	213,425	144.69

IRISH AGRICULTURAL WHOLESALE SOCIETY.

NUMBER OF WORKERS; AND WAGES PAID.

Year.	No. of Workers.	Wages.		Productive.			Distributive.		
		Amount.	Average per Employee.	No. of Workers.	Wages.		No. of Workers.	Wages.	
					Amount.	Average per Employee.		Amount.	Average per Employee.
		£	£					£	£
1914 ....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1915	81	5,400	66·67	..	..	..	81	5,400	66·67
1916	100	6,854	68·54	..	..	..	100	6,854	68·54
1917	125	10,730	85·84	..	..	..	125	10,730	85·84
1918	156	17,109	109·67	..	..	..	156	17,109	109·67

ENGLISH, SCOTTISH, AND IRISH WHOLESALE SOCIETIES TOGETHER.

NUMBER OF WORKERS; AND WAGES PAID.

Year.	No. of Workers.	Wages.		Productive.			Distributive.		
		Amount.	Average per Employee.	No. of Workers.	Wages.		No. of Workers.	Wages.	
					Amount.	Average per Employee.		Amount.	Average per Employee.
		£	£		£	£		£	£
1914*	32,067	2,069,732	64·54	26,125	1,620,110	62·01	5,942	449,622	75·67
1915	33,108	2,337,440	70·60	27,647	1,840,047	66·56	5,461	497,393	91·08
1916	30,622	2,419,746	79·02	25,540	1,893,157	74·13	5,082	526,589	103·62
1917	31,424	2,650,473	84·35	26,059	2,067,764	79·35	5,365	532,709	108·61
1918	32,580	3,343,756	102·63	27,153	2,576,899	94·90	5,427	766,857	141·30

* English and Scottish Wholesale Societies only.

PRODUCTIVE ACTIVITIES AND WORKING COSTS.

Both the English and Scottish Wholesale Societies show a diminished output of own products measured in values; but the fluctuations in prices during 1918 make it difficult to say whether there is a diminution in quantity as well as in value. As distributive sales rose during the year, the ratio of the wholesale societies' productions to wholesale and retail distributive trade is lower than in 1917. The wages cost of production has risen and so has the wages cost of wholesale distribution, though the value of sales per employee engaged in distribution has risen.

ENGLISH CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE SOCIETY.

VALUE OF PRODUCTIONS; AND RELATED STATISTICS.

Year.	Value of Productions.	Rate % of Productions to		Capital engaged in Production.	Output per Productive Worker	Wages cost of Production per £ of Production	Wholesale Sales per Distributive Employee.	Wages cost of Distribution per £ of Wholesale Sales.
		Whole-sale Sales.	*Retail Sales in England, Wales, & Ireland.					
	£	%	%	£	£	s. d.	£	d.
1914	9,109,318	26.09	13.02	3,116,057	456	2 7½	10,913	2.27
1915	12,895,914	29.92	15.61	3,591,442	631	2 2½	12,343	2.07
1916	16,367,509	31.34	16.77	4,193,145	877	1 9	14,746	1.79
1917	18,581,555	32.20	16.40	4,907,873	974	1 8	15,618	1.77
1918	17,729,568	27.21	14.47	6,449,306	873	2 3	17,168	1.98

* Productions taken at factory values, and retail sales at retail prices.

SCOTTISH CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE SOCIETY.

VALUE OF PRODUCTIONS; AND RELATED STATISTICS.

Year.	Value of Productions.	Rate % of Productions to		Capital engaged in Production.	Output per Productive Worker	Wages cost of Production per £ of Production.	Wholesale Sales per Distributive Employee.	Wages cost of Distribution per £ of Wholesale Sales.
		Whole-sale Sales.	* Retail Sales in Scotland					
	£	%	%	£	£	s. d.	£	d.
1914	2,807,047	29.78	15.58	924,734	458	2 11	3,436	3.06
1915	3,697,821	32.38	18.53	1,078,529	513	2 4½	6,048	2.54
1916	4,708,104	32.46	19.56	1,309,962	686	1 11½	10,071	2.15
1917	6,294,857	36.86	21.93	1,328,712	902	1 7½	11,055	2.05
1918	5,942,528	30.44	18.10	1,231,531	868	1 11½	13,234	2.62

ENGLISH AND SCOTTISH WHOLESALE SOCIETIES.

VALUE OF PRODUCTIONS; AND RELATED STATISTICS.

Year.	Value of Productions.	Rate % of Productions to		Capital engaged in Production.	Output per Productive Worker	Wages cost of Production per £ of Production.	Wholesale Sales per Distributive Employee.	Wages cost of Distribution per £ of Wholesale Sales.
		Whole-sale Sales.	*Retail Sales in the United Kingdom					
	£	%	%	£	£	s. d.	£	d.
1914	11,916,365	26.88	13.55	4,040,791	456	2 8½	7,461	2.43
1915	16,593,735	30.23	16.18	4,669,971	600	2 2½	10,052	2.17
1916	21,075,613	31.36	18.14	5,503,107	825	1 9½	13,226	1.88
1917	24,876,412	33.26	17.52	6,236,585	955	1 8	14,273	1.84
1918	23,672,096	27.95	15.26	7,680,837	872	2 2	6,067	2.12

* Productions taken at factory values, and retail sales at retail prices.



SUMMARIES

— AND —

STATISTICS.



Summary for each Section

Showing Statistics for each type of Society in

IRISH

YEAR AND TYPE OF SOCIETY.	No of Societies	No of Mem- bers.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS				
			Share Capital.	Loans, includ- ing any Over- draft from Bank.	Re- serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Buildings, Machin- ery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments		Owing to the Society for Goods
			£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1917-Retail Dis. Scs.	47	30252	224718	57940	24954	139075	121225	12393	80057	40989
1918-Retail Dis. Scs.	48	31444	255236	82822	30494	225465	123042	12333	78804	44387
Increase	1	1192	30518	24882	5540	86390	1817	..	1253	3398
Decrease .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	60	..	..
1917-Wholesale Socy.	1	453	21216	61971	8705	61941	..	..	5753	89871
1918-Wholesale Socy.	1	511	25975	90486	10850	79503	..	..	4712	87225
Increase .....	..	58	4759	28515	2145	17562	..	..	1041	2646
Decrease .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

MIDLAND

YEAR AND TYPE OF SOCIETY.	No of Societies	No. of Mem- bers.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.				
			Share Capital.	Loans, includ- ing any Over- draft from Bank.	Re- serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Buildings, Machin- ery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments		Owing to the Society for Goods
			£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1917-Retail Dis. Scs.	174	502054	6303101	813336	352915	2208108	2297600	1131838	2639647	77496
1918-Retail Dis. Scs.	171	510054	7251401	945695	456357	3128979	2401960	1105194	2907039	64722
Increase .....	..	8000	948300	132359	103442	920871	104360	..	267392	..
Decrease	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	26644	..	12774
1917-Productv. Scs.	37	11069	225608	202711	155484	389648	124384	54409	82229	197256
1918-Productv. Scs.	36	11957	275746	264972	215246	505337	161823	49607	166216	246796
Increase .....	..	888	50138	62261	59762	115689	37439	..	83987	49540
Decrease	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	4802	..	..
1917-Special Socy. ..	1	60	971	..	423	20	..	858	730	..
1918-Special Socy. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Increase .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Decrease	1	60	971	..	423	20	..	858	730	..

for 1917 and 1918.

each Section during each of the two years.

SECTION.

No of Employees on Dec. 31st.			Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year	PROFIT.					
Distributive.	Productive.	Distributive.	Productive.	Net Profit		Interest on Share Capital.	Amount Paid as Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.			
								Educational Purposes.	Charitable Purposes.	Co-operative Union.	
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£ s. d.	
1	756	200	49267	14486	1170998	70897	10352	2606	1530	460	128 17 1
2	770	205	61824	19100	1328213	77771	10363	2373	1351	456	147 2 4
	14	5	12557	4014	157215	6874	11	233	179	4	18 5 3

3	125	..	10730	..	651567	5577	1060	..	500	..	3 0 0
4	156	..	17109	..	914242	7527	1500	..	1000	..	3 0 0
	31	..	6379	..	262675	1950	240	..	500	..	....

SECTION.

No of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.						
Distributive.	Productive.	Distributive.	Productive.		Net Profit.	Interest on Share Capital.	Amount Paid as Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.			
								Educational Purposes.	Charitable Purposes.	Co-operative Union.	
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£ s. d.	
1	10867	2785	755379	241336	16768829	1555618	265904	10314	15629	13409	2426 13 1
2	11139	2863	932240	294 21	18126755	1752054	295851	9277	16532	18052	2552 19 2
	272	78	176861	52985	1357926	196436	29947	1037	903	4043	126 6 1

3	11	4453	5040	315491	1804827	133828	11469	25707	2003	1810	75 8 1
4	19	4625	5459	402038	2206291	168234	13614	29390	2207	2465	78 19 3
	8	172	419	86547	401464	34406	2145	368	204	655	3 11 2

5	..	..	285	..	694	213	46	..	..	..	0 10 0
6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	....
	..	..	285	..	694	213	46	..	..	..	0 10 0

NORTHERN

YEAR AND TYPE OF SOCIETY.	No. of Societies	No. of Mem- bers.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.				
			Share Capital.	Loans, includ- ing any Over- draft from Bank.	Re- serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Buildings Machin- ery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments		Owing to the Society for Goods
			£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1917-Retail Dis. Scs.	133	435576	6505839	695618	332460	2023514	1643569	1124429	3372184	296343
1918-Retail Dis. Scs.	133	438834	7194857	777199	436941	2322324	1622770	1049909	3530614	278106
Increase .....	..	3258	689018	81581	104481	908810	..	164430	..	..
Decrease .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	20799	74520	..	18237
1917-Productv. Scs.	6	1024	50192	93581	4898	22816	71758	..	55593	14056
1918-Productv. Scs.	6	1019	54463	91757	6008	32478	66556	..	56294	13177
Increase .....	..	..	4271	..	1110	9062	..	..	701	..
Decrease .....	..	5	..	1824	..	..	5202	..	..	879

NORTH-WESTERN

YEAR AND TYPE OF SOCIETY.	No. of Societies.	No. of Mem- bers.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS				
			Share Capital.	Loans, includ- ing any Over- draft from Bank.	Re- serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Buildings Machin- ery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments		Owing to the Society for Goods
			£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1917-Retail Dis. Scs.	422	1424065	20474305	1019043	1188579	6140462	5888940	4585748	9340761	354032
1918-Retail Dis. Scs.	421	1432433	22473073	2201592	1445140	8424853	5810787	4255001	10272208	284340
Increase .....	..	8368	1998768	282549	256561	2284391	..	78153	931447	..
Decrease	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	330747	..	69692
1917-Distrib. Feds.	5	60	29224	50	1767	3310	1202	1778	28466	8516
1918-Distrib. Feds.	5	61	31461	118	1079	3720	1199	1714	33991	6703
Increase .....	..	1	2237	68	212	410	..	..	5525	..
Decrease .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	64	..	1813
1917-Productv. Scs.	23	5038	215951	118868	67836	172637	161895	..	73475	91843
1918-Productv. Scs.	22	4129	185332	123007	61755	173998	137887	..	69954	108661
Increase .....	..	..	..	4139	..	1171	..	..	..	16818
Decrease	1	909	30619	..	6081	..	24008	..	3521	..
1917-Supply Assoc.	1	349	1995	..	1140	1757	101	169	1372	2830
1918-Supply Assoc.	1	349	1995	..	1140	1757	101	169	1372	2830
Increase .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Decrease .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1917-Wholesale Socy.	1	1192	2981133	3956192	3308230	6187145	2927350	4637	1396976	2138376
1918-Wholesale Socy.	1	1200	3195737	8701204	3472098	9027243	359270	4618	3013446	2277093
Increase .....	..	8	214604	4745012	163868	2840098	665353	..	1616470	138717
Decrease .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	19	..	..
1917-Special Socy.	1	3	20000	35604	834083	..	24840	65088	813845	19700
1918-Special Socy.	1	2	20000	39099	911756	..	23438	55495	939098	32352
Increase .....	..	..	..	3495	77673	..	..	..	125853	12652
Decrease .....	..	1	..	..	..	..	1402	9593	..	..

SECTION.

No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year	PROFIT.								
Distributive.	Productive.	Distributive.	Productive.		Net Profit.	In erest on Share Capital.	Amount Paid s Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.					
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	s.	d.
1	11483	2832	786697	208732	19752053	2358504	292290	136	6683	11034	2112	1	1
2	11519	2838	982073	246412	21930755	2410569	314103	23	8525	11223	2257	3	4
	36	6	195376	37680	2178702	52065	21813		1842	189	145	2	3
	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	113	..	..	....
3	4	366	310	22757	374081	8982	2087	..	..	42	6	9	11
4	4	374	295	27637	408557	6470	2154	..	..	48	6	14	8
	..	8	..	4880	34476	..	67	..	..	6	0	4	9
	..	..	15	..	..	2512	..	..	..	..	....

SECTION.

No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year	PROFIT.						
Distributive.	Productive.	Distributive.	Productive.		Net Profit	In erest on Share Capital.	Amount Paid 's Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.			
								Educa- tional Pur- poses.	Chari- table Pur- poses.	Co-operative Union.	
1	30528	8801	2245270	704490	50720948	6007845	818353	3187	50755	35958	6806 2 7
2	30431	8700	2753575	835564	5308 952	5826983	916826	3224	47953	51393	7258 14 0
	..	..	508305	131074	2365004	..	98473	37	2802	15485	452 11 5
	97	101	..	..	..	180862	..	..	..	..	....
3	15	11	1221	960	129130	8632	1422	..	..	1	4 3 0
4	15	16	1479	1399	121597	7637	1547	..	..	19	4 3 0
	..	5	258	439	..	..	125	..	..	18	....
	..	..	....	..	7533	995	..	..	..	..	....
5	80	2093	13094	157760	846034	57036	10007	3988	..	831	65 9 0
6	70	1806	12774	163209	953582	68990	9745	3972	..	786	58 11 3
	..	10	287	320	5449	107548	11954	..	..	45	6 17 9
	..	..	..	..	..	..	262	16	..	..	....
7	5	..	450	..	25494	1198	92	..	..	..	....
8	5	..	450	..	25494	1198	92	..	..	..	....

9	3695	19082	425825	1558044	57710133	1315155	143703	..	..	5719	600 0 0
10	3796	20304	536323	1992814	65167960	160538	154981	..	135	11382	600 0 0
	101	1222	110498	434770	7457827	..	11228	..	135	5663	....
	..	..	..	..	..	1154617	..	..	..	..	....
11	480	..	370*8	..	456304	28636	1000	..	..	..	25 0 0
12	570	..	48830	..	587023	24412	2000	..	..	..	25 0 0
	90	..	11792	..	130719	..	1000	..	..	..	....
	..	..	..	..	..	4224	..	..	..	..	....

SECTION.

No of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.						
Distributive.	Productive.	Distributive.	Productive.		Net Profit.	Interest on Share Capital.	Amount Paid as Bonns on Wages.	Subscriptions.			
								Educa-tional Pur-poses.	Chari-table Pur-poses.	Co-operative Union.	
1	19495	7449	£ 1208763	£ 582135	£ 28702591	£ 3841996	£ 298228	£ 18637	£ 20896	£ 22188	£ s. d. 2455 14 3
2	19699	7459	1478338	706566	32654903	4098605	322657	20238	22860	23478	2680 15 11
	204	10	269575	124431	3952312	256609	24429	1601	1964	1290	225 1 8

3	737	1997	68030	156147	1947286	145897	17581	8543	1399	1826	69 1 6
4	629	1912	82638	184630	1974687	139624	18608	9537	1084	1914	63 1 6
	108	85	14608	28483	27401	6273	1027	994	315	88	1 0 0

5	1545	6977	146154	509720	17079842	500915	28618	10016	..	5290	132 0 0
6	1475	6849	213425	584085	19519485	547993	30443	9348	..	6374	132 0 0
	70	128	67271	74365	2439643	47078	1825	668	..	1084	....

SECTION.

No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year	PROFIT.						
Distributive.	Productive.	Distributive.	Productive.		Net Profit.	Interest on Share Capital.	Amount Paid as Bonns on Wages.	Subscriptions.			
								Educational Purposes.	Charitable Purposes.	Co-operative Union.	
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£ s. d.	
1	12203	2304	804142	223887	14102269	1063872	214956	12489	15114	6896	2468 2 1
2	12104	2326	931964	241644	15746883	1267837	237185	14176	17754	8750	2766 6 0
	..	22	127822	17757	1644614	203965	22229	1687	2640	1854	298 3 11
	99	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	....
3	42	207	3687	20538	156273	12397	679	1084	111	148	3 12 8
4	69	219	3454	25451	148365	13772	918	1435	41	165	2 14 1
	..	12	..	4913	..	375	239	351	..	17	0 18 7
	3	..	233	..	7908	..	..	..	70	..	....
5	1643	118	141779	21051	1662654	57235	..	..	..	119	39 4 0
6	1632	158	154178	21982	1714108	56072	..	..	..	96	39 7 5
	..	11	12399	931	51454	..	..	..	..	23	0 3 5
	..	..	..	..	....	1163	..	..	..	..	....
7	3	..	172	..	23336	539	30	250	5	1	....
8	3	..	172	..	13136	434	29	233	5	1	....
	..	..	..	..	10200	105	1	17	..	..	....

SOUTH-WESTERN

YEAR AND TYPE OF SOCIETY.	No. of Societies	No of Mem- bers.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.				
			Share Capital.	Loans, includ- ing any Over- draft from Bank.	Re- serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Buildings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments		Owing to the Society for Goods
			£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1917-Retail Dis. Scs.	74	154537	1325073	201559	178145	653493	670464	182902	361009	25009
1918-Retail Dis. Scs.	75	163066	1561358	212124	204673	880332	738312	148512	404878	25965
Increase	1	8529	236285	10565	26528	226839	67848	..	43869	956
Decrease .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	34390	..	..
1917-Productv. Scs.	2	231	2312	1376	248	1460	2564	..	210	1083
1918-Productv. Scs.	2	287	2508	1564	606	2570	2370	..	844	1923
Increase .....	..	6	196	188	358	1110	..	..	634	840
Decrease .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	194	..	..	..
19 7-Special Scy...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
19 8-Special Scy...	1	476	144	..	2500	579	249	..	3708	..
Increase	1	476	144	..	2500	579	249	..	3708	..
Decrease .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

WESTERN

YEAR AND TYPE OF SOCIETY.	No. of Societies.	No of Mem- bers.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.				
			Share Capital.	Loans, includ- ing any Over- draft from Bank.	Re- serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Buildings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments		Owing to the Society for Goods
			£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1917-Retail Dis. Scs.	85	152901	1634983	253641	157088	972042	465687	219535	653626	96380
1918-Retail Dis. Scs.	86	155741	1890599	346608	186565	1393649	468557	187490	746397	88944
Increase	1	2840	255616	92967	29477	421607	2870	..	92771	..
Decrease .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	32045	..	7436
1917-Productv. Scs.	2	84	1507	1630	357	621	2681	..	232	477
1918-Productv. Scs.	2	90	1465	2158	366	796	2722	..	197	479
Increase .....	..	6	..	528	9	175	41	..	..	2
Decrease .....	..	..	42	..	..	..	..	..	35	..
1917-Supply Assoc.	1	374	2577	4144	24	2759	576	..	886	6369
1918-Supply Assoc.	1	391	2582	3619	24	2933	521	..	610	6724
Increase .....	..	17	5	..	..	174	..	..	..	355
Decrease .....	..	..	..	525	..	..	55	..	276	..

SECTION.

[illegible]

SECTION.

No of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year	PROFIT.						
Distributive.	Pro-ductive.	Distributive.	Pro-ductive.		Net Profit.	In creast on Share Capital.	Amount Paid as Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.			
								Educa- tional Pur- poses.	Char- itable Pur- poses.	Co-operative Union.	
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£ s. d.	
1	3762	633	290069	61354	6950061	687998	59361	1151	3033	2791	693 12 0
2	4100	631	339924	71451	7768819	659295	64673	814	3852	3607	777 7 7
	338	..	49855	10097	818758	..	5312	..	819	816	83 15 7
	..	2	..	..	..	28703	..	337	..	..	....
3	..	18	..	1627	11040	237	65	..	..	2	0 10 6
4	4	16	520	1541	11305	296	64	..	..	1	0 10 6
	4	..	520	..	265	9	..	..	..	..	....
	..	2	..	86	..	..	1	..	..	1	....
5	10	..	915	..	24570	169	117	..	..	6	1 15 5
6	10	..	1231	..	23848	852	244	..	..	7	1 18 6
	..	..	316	..	..	683	127	..	..	1	0 3 1
	..	..	..	..	722	..	..	..	..	..	....

GENERAL SUMMARY FOR

[illegible]

COTTON, LINEN,

[illegible]

in 1918 as compared with 1917.

	£		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1	6649	205	16464	36687	668	238	..	..	..	5	4
2	5348	231	17013	39986	950	269	..	..	..	..	17
3	5689	216	17434	42331	1541	288	..	..	..	..	6
4	8467	169	15454	47624	803	328	20	..	34	..	1
5	7740	165	16699	51502	1637	257	114	21	11	..	4
	727	.. 4	1245	3878	834	.. 71	.. 94	21	.. 23	..	3

BUILDING AND

YEAR.	No. of Societies.	No. of Members.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.			
			Share Capital.	Loans, including any Overdraft from Bank.	Reserve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Buildings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments. House Property.	All other Investments.
1914	4	710	£ 14580	£ 83180	£ 3519	£ 13182	£ 12705	£ 66535	£ 10477
1915	4	701	14123	84513	3572	8000	12129	66523	9896
1916	4	688	14526	78249	6147	5167	14412	61771	6151
1917	4	687	14545	66317	4075	3095	11655	53933	8473
1918	4	686	14481	71055	4168	3024	11610	48896	18419
Increase for year 1918	..	..	.. 64	4738	93	..	.. 45	.. 5037	9946
Decrease for year 1918	..	1	..	..	..	71	..	..	..

PRINTING AND

1914	15	2776	£ 68437	£ 31069	£ 12747	£ 21504	£ 69054	£ 686	£ 15109
1915	16	2756	70256	33565	20372	22268	70414	669	22804
1916	16	2773	70897	36238	25189	40821	66425	..	22137
1917	16	2859	73999	38335	31461	60880	66921	..	30643
1918	16	2971	78300	41463	46474	76258	71286	..	37380
Increase for year 1918	..	112	4301	3128	15013	15378	4365	..	6737
Decrease for year 1918	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

CORN

1914	6	3119	£ 223860	£ 20845	£ 5823	£ 93482	£ 94284	£ ..	£ 43703
1915	3	546	20389	25443	107	12727	16244	..	17059
1916	3	532	20425	28136	137	13091	16869	..	18227
1917	3	537	20465	27204	187	12850	16618	..	18273
1918	3	633	21000	25972	212	20290	13820	..	16788
Increase for year 1918	..	..	535	..	25	7440	..	..	..
Decrease for year 1918	..	4	..	1232	..	..	2798	..	1485

BAKING.

1914	6	3714	£ 12048	£ 4830	£ 1486	£ 2777	£ 13322	£ 1261	£ 1602
1915	7	3882	13818	8037	1551	3360	16843	1253	2215
1916	7	4073	14100	10272	1777	2889	16782	194	2770
1917	6	4063	12553	8540	2082	2466	15821	175	4526
1918	6	4091	12887	8792	2002	3974	15643	150	3481
Increase for year 1918	..	28	334	252	820	1508	..	..	..
Decrease for year 1918	..	..	..	..	..	..	178	25	1045

LAUNDRIES.

1914	6	115	£ 49862	£ 29229	£ 2176	£ 1592	£ 61967	£ ..	£ 20600
1915	6	117	52021	41837	2601	2862	72252	..	23254
1916	7	139	59831	53624	2956	5172	87330	..	27894
1917	7	140	60567	63124	3712	6282	86931	..	37858
1918	7	141	65581	62754	4594	8562	82233	..	42074
Increase for year 1918	..	1	5014	..	882	2280	..	..	4216
Decrease for year 1918	..	..	..	370	..	..	4698	..	..

VARIOUS.

YEAR.	No. of Societies.	No. of Members.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.			
			Share Capital.	Loans, including any Overdraft from Bank.	Reserve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Buildings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.	
			£	£	£	£	£	House Property.	All other Investments.
1914	6	1138	27057	10631	6446	17791	18053	£	£655
1915	6	1166	28433	10006	5984	20727	17114	..	10815
1916	5	1188	30682	9839	7662	27571	16886	..	7697
1917	5	1339	36376	9610	11826	30726	16432	..	12708
1918	5	1478	52799	29677	13757	40149	48301	..	14118
Increase for year 1918	..	139	16423	20067	1931	9423	31869	..	1415
Decrease for year 1918	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

SCOT

COTTON AND

			£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1914	1	5423	52393	78919	8252	25820	38963	6606	65910
1915	1	5833	57305	74055	9816	29020	40041	6816	59635
1916	1	6268	60724	79280	9707	31290	38535	6706	74373
1917	1	6943	69957	82823	11038	42515	36715	6506	77777
1918	1	7743	84809	90484	12244	82690	33880	12820	70501
Increase for year 1918	..	800	14852	7661	1206	40175	2835	6224	7276
Decrease for year 1918	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

PRINTING AND

			£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1914	3	422	12043	8561	4850	679	15087	1500	3697
1915	3	424	12049	7700	4864	1072	16087	..	3613
1916	3	425	12048	688	4957	1642	15004	..	4558
1917	3	421	12051	7574	5289	2760	15028	..	4928
1918	3	375	11992	7966	5552	3282	14659	..	8114
Increase for year 1918	..	..	..	392	263	522	..	..	..
Decrease for year 1918	..	46	59	..	..	..	369	..	914

BAKING.

			£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1914	11	6944	265180	313116	91870	57670	270349	14518	341178
1915	10	7001	274262	344545	100096	56446	269267	11034	394434
1916	9	6386	277137	358808	109713	87557	261530	8340	403379
1917	9	6620	283022	346996	124207	48313	237013	19743	460925
1918	9	6867	524462	160634	131508	53566	208627	23669	548056
Increase for year 1918	..	247	241440	..	7301	5252	..	3926	87131
Decrease for year 1918	..	..	..	186362	..	..	28386	..	..

LAUNDRY.

			£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1914	1	74	3135	11544	2215	501	11083	..	5688
1915	1	75	4795	11651	2210	828	11166	..	6859
1916	1	78	5060	12852	2367	1225	11547	..	7005
1917	1	78	5060	12203	2635	1239	10915	..	7072
1918	1	79	5065	12775	2862	1282	10293	..	8454
Increase for year 1918	..	1	5	572	217	43	..	..	1382
Decrease for year 1918	..	..	..	..	..	..	622	..	..

							NET SURPLUS (after paying interest stated): HOW DIVIDED.				
Owing to Society for Goods.	No. of Employees on December 31st.	Salaries and Wages.	Trade during the Year.	Amount of Surplus for Year.	Share In- terest.	To Capitals.	To Labour.	To Pur- chaser.	Subscriptions.		
						Amount Paid.	Amount Paid.	Amount Paid.	Educa- tional Purpose.	Chari- table Purposes.	
1	£ 10734	204	£ 13039	£ 125923	£ 4472	£ 1843	£	£ 1034	£ 2000	£ 33	£ 145
2	13350	200	14040	157837	7045	1383	35	970	2325	56	123
3	17840	207	14104	191318	9614	2010	59	1365	4343	102	145
4	22825	209	15820	282890	14503	1775		1338	2988	109	132
5	25049	222	20952	290591	16386	2883	846	1792	3895	40	163
	3124	13	5132	16771	1883	1108	846	454	907	69	31

LAND.

WOOL.

	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
1	10917	500	25489	160843	16517	2558	..	1195	13342	53	432
2	16182	489	27918	197302	13255	19730	..	392	2331	..	269
3	16525	490	30912	211020	14232	2999	..	1128	2423	..	390
4	16190	375	26810	285054	19054	3336	..	1030	7837	..	368
5	25296	369	32926	389579	19072	3853	..	925	3097	..	607
	9106	15	6116	104525	882	517	..	105	4740	..	239

BOOKBINDING.

1	£		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
2	6542	105	8548	20304	1489	679	..	74	..	29
3	6214	108	7729	19132	1116	130	..	51	..	42
4	5905	104	7706	21094	836	503	..	57	..	90
5	7553	99	8337	23496	849	503	..	..	..	30
6	8484	105	9914	28525	1383	550	..	..	..	54
	931	6	1577	5029	534	47	..	..	..	24

	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
1	20858	1871	128292	882218	107439	12268	0030	80642	1301	1465	
2	23219	1760	135772	1155608	128375	12831	8031	88204	1562	1020	
3	20348	1859	151622	1420009	132566	13010	8421	98316	1595	1195	
4	26422	1359	110676	15187	124575	13489	7513	88126	1390	1420	
5	33184	1290	132082	1531645	117704	13952	3516	8612	1074	1237	
	6762	89	21406	83542	6871	463	3516	1099	4014	316	183

	£		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1	540	281	10756	24003	3264	155	..	..	2700	14	69
2	721	287	11283	24992	2713	178	..	..	2373	11	55
3	935	215	11599	25382	1429	249	..	..	1139	10	23
4	1271	164	10324	23549	519	253	..	..	..	9	8
5	1433	157	9708	24058	1465	253	..	..	946	10	16
	162	..	616	1889	946	..	..	..	946	1	8

ENGLISH CO-OPERATIVE

YEAR.	No. of Societies.	No. of Members.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.				
			Share Capital.	Loans, including any Overdraft from Bank.	Reserve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Buildings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		
								House Property.	All other Investments.	
			£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
1914	1	..	..	3116057	..	1660594	1066760	..	..	1
1915	1	..	..	3591442	..	1780324	1151694	..	..	2
1916	1	..	..	4193145	..	2147775	1133320	..	..	3
1917	1	..	..	4907873	..	3067440	1240360	..	..	4
1918	1	..	..	6449306	..	3920710	1675121	..	..	5
Increase for year 1918	..	..	..	1541433	..	853270	434761	..	..
Decrease for year 1918	..	..	..		..			..	..

SCOTTISH CO-OPERATIVE

			£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
1914	1	..	..	924734	..	737539	330791	..	..	1
1915	1	..	..	1078529	..	880762	303881	..	..	2
1916	1	..	..	1309962	..	995498	304784	..	..	3
1917	1	..	..	1328712	..	893846	298472	..	..	4
1918	1	..	..	1231531	..	1077028	274178	..	..	5
Increase for year 1918	..	..	..	..	..	183182	..	..	..
Decrease for year 1918	..	..	..	97181	..	..	24294	..	..

WHOLESALE SOCIETY.

	Owing to Society for Goods.	No. of Employees on December 31st.	Salaries and Wages.	Trade during the Year.	Amount of Surplus for Year.	Share Interest.	NET SURPLUS (after paying interest stated) HOW DIVIDED.				
							To Capital.	To Labor.	To Purchaser.	Subscriptions.	
							Amount Paid.	Amount Paid.	Amount Paid.	Educational Purposes.	Charitable Purposes.
	£		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1	..	19991	1209887	9109318	215151	87333	..	..	..	..	..
2	..	20432	1406127	12895914	295067	96293	..	..	..	..	..
3	..	18673	1430054	16367509	374780	114027	..	..	..	..	..
4	..	19082	1558044	18581555	418653	148408	..	..	..	..	..
5	..	16047	1502619	17729568	253981	197680	..	..	..	..	..
	..					49272	..	..	..	..	..
	..	3035	55425	851987	164672	..	..	..	..	..	..

WHOLESALE SOCIETY.

	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1	..	6134	410223	2807047	122475	38646	..	..	..	..
2	..	7215	433920	3697821	105272	29003	..	..	..	..
3	..	6867	463103	4708104	103795	29677	..	..	..	..
4	..	6977	509720	6294857	123117	43893	..	..	..	..
5	..	6849	584085	5942528	138599	38302	..	..	..	..
	..		74365		15482		..	..	..	..
	..	128	..	352329	..	5591	..	..	..	..

Statistics of Societies' Trade

IRISH

RETURN OF TRADE, &c., of Distributive

a These particulars are taken from our last year's return. *b* These particulars are taken this office or to

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Mem- bers.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, includ- ing any Over- draft from Bank.	Re- serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Bldings, Machin- ery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.
							House Prop- erty.	All other Invest- ments.	
IRELAND.									
Retail Distrib. Societies—		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Ardara	105	106	2045	420	1340	407	..	121	724
Armagh	456	3791	1231	305	1996	3535	..	1183	527
*Ballinagleragh	706	3690	22	108	2188	488	..	2434	669
Ballymena and Harryville..	706	3690	22	108	2188	488	..	2434	669
Belfast	17900	180871	31698	16300	124453	90063	12083	47315	1509
<i>n</i> Clanwilliam	250	858	53	150	1225	63	..	202	195
Clonmel	135	737	62	24	1056	156	..	712	100
Coalisland	434	706	23	..	435	299	..	420	547
Cork (City of)	126	519	..	190	834	..	..	480	171
Donacloy	80	93	676	..	754	250	..	4	707
<i>a</i> Downstrands	108	792	1	190	815	6	..	361	259
Drumaness	132	363	113	..	894	87	..	184	200
Drumreany	1003	1696	1225	..	2635	2848	..	2653	1207
Dublin	823	1569	..	..	2536	644	..	202	578
†Dublin Consumers	295	405	..	1	148	88	..	17	28
Dublin University	394	2153	676	13	1341	1199	..	376	313
Dundalk	189	577	26	..	651	181	..	279	193
Dungannon	1501	4900	27118	3897	20756	7170	..	3959	9612
*Dunraymond	696	4424	..	56	3276	928	..	876	1002
Enniscorthy	128	231	339	..	736	56	..	17	288
Enniskillen	81	533	..	944	1480	12	..	741	123
<i>n</i> Finisk	140	74	312	206	952	38	..	8	527
Foynes	102	360	628	..	232	1015	..	115	370
Greenore	300	369	2216	269	3807	1259	..	168	1704
Gweedore	116	72	536	..	1007	32	..	11	452
<i>a</i> Inchicore	110	399	..	..	1111	200	..	458	927
Inniskiel	1950	34724	774	2278	18349	8537	..	9559	7540
Kil'ybegs	186	410	261	485	1346	530	..	435	29
Larne	98	84	90	..	224	53	..	..	294
Lisburn	278	518	45	223	427	91	..	308	285
<i>n</i> Lissarda	160	234	56	..	994	56	..	6	663
Lucan	457	4559	520	319	1718	454	250	1937	1543
Middletown	387	1144	858	372	2952	1166	..	543	230
Moycullen	64	290	276	110	673	..	..	420	430
Newtownards	126	135	748	540	833	23	..	7	511
Ochilmore	323	314	50	43	966	136	..	67	289
Portadown									
Queenstown									
Rossclare Harbour									
*Shamrock									
Slieve League									
<i>a</i> Sligo									

* No recent information available.

† Nine months' trading.

n Not commenced trading.

for the Year 1918.

SECTION.

Co-operative Societies in IRELAND, for 1918.

from the Registrar's Return for 1917. c These societies have not made a return either to the Registrar.

No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.						
					Net Profit.	Interest on Share Capital	Average Dividend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.		
Distributive.	Productive.	Distributive.	Productive.						Educational Purposes.	Charitable Purposes.	Co-operative Union.
		£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.
1	4	214	..	13394	442	4					
2	12	875	..	21356	763	194	0 8	..	12	5	2 9 0
3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
4	13	895	..	26729	1118	155	1 0	..	21	14	3 18 5
5	472	73	41250	5949	671059	57103	7630	1 2	2096	1268	90 12 6
6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
7	6	347	..	9197	591	27	1 0	..	..	6	..
8	3	244	..	9800	327	28	..	..	..	1	0 12 6
9	4	357	423	6658	208	..	..	..	..	4	..
10	5	235	..	7810	250	22	0 6	20	..	..	..
11	3	133	..	5545	116	..	..	..	..	..	..
12	3	209	..	5373	367	32	1 3	11	..	2	0 12 3
13	3	168	..	10399	330	22	0 6	..	..	1	0 12 11
14	16	1867	398	36724	1151	23	0 2 1	..	..	..	3 4 7
15	14	1032	..	14036	18	..	..	..	..	..	4 3 1
16	1	71	..	1299	..	..	..	..	..	..	0 10 0
17	11	369	..	8599	418	67	1 0	40	..	..	1 18 10
18	4	244	..	7144	..	..	..	..	..	1	1 1 6
19	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
20	22	28	1032	606	82678	809	245	1 0	..	..	11 10 11
21	13	..	798	..	27282	955	166	0 10	27	..	3 9 6
22	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0 12 6
23	2	..	117	..	3663	90	11	..	..	2	0 13 3
24	4	..	307	..	8203	904	14	2 6	65	7	0 8 2
25	4	..	214	..	8697	372	..	..	8	..	..
26	4	..	187	..	3249	68	..	..	..	..	..
27	9	..	495	..	23823	52	..	..	..	..	..
28	2	..	162	..	6409	254	..	..	..	..	..
29	4	..	324	..	10759	..	15	0 6	13	..	..
30	54	12	4731	397	99912	6055	1312	1 2	..	50	104
31	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9 3 4
32	6	..	276	..	10413	613	17	1 4	13	..	2
33	2	..	56	..	2009	76	..	..	..	..	0 10 2
34	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
35	4	..	307	..	5713	113	20	..	..	2	1 6 0
36	2	3	170	201	5223	113	..	..	..	..	0 11 8
37	13	..	767	..	22505	1162	175	1 0	32	..	2 7 11
38	9	..	705	..	17948	686	47	0 10	19	..	1 19 6
39	4	..	130	..	6000	50	13	0 9	..	2	0 6 2
40	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
41	3	..	147	..	6600	239	4	..	15	..	..
42	3	..	149	..	2829	235	12	..	..	..	..

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Members.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.					
		Share Capital.	Loans, including any Over-draft from Bank.	Re-serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Bldings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.	
							House Property.	All other Invest-ments.		
IRELAND—Continued.										
dSouth County Dublin	16	28	..	..	32	19	..	..	133	43
aSpringfield	75	447	..	1735	1076	15	..	..	2666	44
Templecorone	300	382	10080	1184	17825	609	..	1357	6337	45
Warrenpoint	189	522	..	52	626	54	..	171	128	46
Waterford	465	1157	64	80	760	275	..	608	317	47
*Whealt .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	48
Retail Societies Total for 1918	31444	255236	82822	30494	225465	123042	12333	78804	44387	
Wholesale Society— Irish Agricultural.....	511	25975	90486	10850	79503	..	..	4712	87225	49
Total for Section, 1918....	31955	281211	173308	41344	304968	123042	12333	83516	131612	
Total for Section, 1917....	30705	245934	119911	33659	201016	121225	12393	85810	130860	
Increase	1250	35277	53997	7685	103952	1817	..	..	752	
Decrease .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	60	2294	..	
Distrit Total for previous year (1917)	30252	224718	57940	24954	139075	121225	12393	80057	49989	
Wholesale Society Total for previous year (1917)	453	21216	61971	8705	61941	..	..	5753	89871	
Total for Section for previous year (1917)	30705	245934	119911	33659	201016	121225	12393	85810	130860	

* No recent information available. *d* 1916 Figures.

	No. of Employees on Dec. Stat.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.						
	Distributive.	Productive.	Distributive.	Productive.		Net Profit.	Interest on Share Capital.	Average Dividend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.		
			£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.
43	1	..	10	..	686	5	..	..	..	..	..	....
44	3	..	208	..	29044	240	33	..	..	..	..	....
45	20	170	1400	11126	74830	1557	..	..	1.	..	..	....
46	3	..	236	..	5749	203	21	..	8	..	3	1 0 8
47	5	..	386	..	8957	319	54	0 8	6	..	4	2 7 11
48	..	..	..	..	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	....
	770	295	61824	19100	1328213	177771	10363	..	2373	1351	456	147 2 4
49	156	..	17109	..	914242	7527	1300	..	..	1000	..	3 0 0
	926	295	78933	19100	2242455	85298	11663	..	2373	2351	456	150 2 4
	881	290	59997	14486	1822565	76474	11412	..	2606	2030	460	131 17 1
	45	5	18036	4614	419890	8824	251	..	..	321	..	18 5 3
	..	..	..	..	....	..	..	..	233	..	4	....
	756	290	49267	14486	1170998	70897	10352	..	2606	1530	460	128 17 1
	125	..	10730	..	651567	5577	1060	..	..	500	..	3 0 0
	881	290	59997	14486	1822565	76474	11412	..	2606	2030	460	131 17 1

‡ Before deducting the loss of £401.

MIDLAND

RETURN OF TRADE, &c., of Co-operative Societies in the Counties of
RUTLAND, SALOP, STAFFORD, WARWICK, and Part of WORCESTER.

a These particulars are taken from our last year's return. *b* These particulars are taken
this office or to

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Mem- bers.	LIABILITIES.				ASSETS.			
		Share Capital.	Loans, includ- ing any Over- draft from Bank.	Re- serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Buildings, Machin- ery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
No. 1—NORTHAMPTON & EARLS BARTON DISTRICT—									
Retail Distrib. Societies—									
Brafield	301	6292	209	260	934	506	600	4974	1
Brington	170	1031	..	150	370	22	..	1082	2
Brixworth	268	3014	970	130	1104	1219	1176	1204	3
Cogenhoe Self-Help	185	1350	..	105	307	5	..	1196	4
Daventry	1470	21085	5527	423	13100	8442	4997	2398	5
Denton	93	340	..	60	364	93	..	62	6
Earls Barton	963	21326	1263	1163	4462	7905	3766	9201	7
East Haddon	64	181	..	137	294	..	..	124	8
Ecton	154	983	..	230	482	4	..	1019	9
Hackleton	180	2614	71	243	704	423	262	1952	10
Harlestone	161	608	26	50	378	34	..	388	11
Harpole	740	11153	5108	252	5833	2839	2017	6844	12
I.L.P. Boot	15	19	..	673	2255	42	..	580	13
Long Buckby	1456	35274	1705	2217	10072	16053	7503	8479	14
Moulton	375	2748	230	709	1372	1147	1093	430	15
Northampton	9016	70553	45899	5347	41434	35338	6248	50995	16
Pitsoford	68	322	..	47	251	30	..	252	17
Yardley Hastings	260	2315	540	295	1113	959	622	822	18
District Total for 1918	15895	181208	61548	12491	84859	75061	28284	92002	888
Totals, previous year (1917)	15167	155482	52204	10751	57569	67495	28726	85340	919
No. 2—WELLINGBOROUGH AND KETTERING DISTRICT—									
Retail Distrib. Societies—									
Burton Latimer	1070	27088	1397	1060	4459	3566	7471	15973	20
Desborough	1970	82003	31780	5693	25004	30577	64429	6063	2370
Fineldon	915	18474	2050	1557	2320	2813	2559	17150	3
Higham Ferrers	592	6499	1165	810	3102	2860	..	4238	4
Irchester	451	7861	2018	294	3889	3955	1420	2020	5
Irthlingborough	749	7618	2280	461	4530	3804	686	2948	109
Kettering	9390	318862	14662	8628	36972	33000	110713	183169	7
Market Harborough	3325	33598	4111	1211	16511	17585	..	9828	8
Raunds Distributive	1555	32152	2677	1208	18295	10363	2710	8240	9
Ringstead Distributive	205	1650	462	107	449	557	..	1521	58
Rothwell	1070	23140	4063	555	3988	5804	5197	16061	45
Rushden	2617	36902	11205	1579	25635	17122	3761	9590	173
Thrapston	528	5389	1731	659	3501	2124	..	3331	185
Walgrave Industrial	163	1242	92	272	520	355	..	1036	14
Wellingborough Midland	3511	60512	17097	6183	15486	8724	7556	61262	1015
Wollaston	840	21753	5058	479	3102	2688	3994	19956	16
Retail Soc's. Total for 1918	28861	684743	102448	30756	167761	145897	210496	362386	3975

SECTION.

CAMBRIDGE, DERBY, LEICESTER, LINCOLN, NORTHAMPTON, NOTTINGHAM,
for 1918, arranged in their respective Conference Districts.

from the Registrar's Return for 1917. c These societies have not made a return either to
the Registrar.

No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.			Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.							
Distri- butive.	Pro- ductive.	Distri- butive.	Pro- ductive.	Net Profit.		In- terest on Share Capital	Aver- age Divi- dend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.				
			£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.	
1	4	3	199	93	8095	986	192	2 4	..	..	3	....
2	3	..	164	..	7290	938	46	2 7½	..	..	..	....
3	3	2	391	117	12212	916	136	1 2½	..	..	10	....
4	1	..	76	..	3641	393	41	2 4½	..	..	5	0 13 4
5	33	5	2473	343	47518	3579	910	1 2	54	28	24	3 9 10	
6	1	..	92	..	2240	84	15	1 7	..	..	..	0 9 10
7	12	6	1053	439	28807	2878	920	1 6	..	..	24	5 1 8
8	1	..	69	..	2452	235	9	2 3	..	..	..	....
9	1	1	132	52	5274	422	38	1 9	..	..	..	....
10	1	1	254	65	7142	756	120	2 4	..	..	4	0 19 2
11	3	..	266	..	5059	296	28	1 5½	..	..	1	0 15 6
12	16	8	974	218	21258	1409	364	1 0	..	..	16	3 16 0
13	3	..	476	..	6924	881	..	..	..	605	..	0 5 0
14	24	17	1927	1090	46818	6087	1255	1 8	..	40	60	6 6 0	
15	4	2	327	98	12287	917	135	1 5	..	..	4	1 17 10
16	184	23	12017	3442	248642	21629	2970	1 6	..	86	185	46 12 1	
17	1	..	77	..	2709	225	15	1 9½	..	..	..	0 7 5
18	3	1	253	78	8375	612	111	1 8	..	..	2	1 7 0
298			69	21220	6035	476743	43243	7305	..	54	759	338	72 0 8
243			67	17616	4516	426447	38108	6327	..	47	621	203	69 13 0
1	15	5	1509	172	31238	2922	949	1 4	..	5	54	5 5 11	
2	32	102	3271	11734	94299	11248	2946	1 11	..	40	323	9 17 11	
3	11	4	997	230	27930	3163	768	1 8	..	..	23	4 12 1
4	7	2	718	218	21193	2781	297	2 0	141	5	55	2 12 6	
5	6	3	513	192	27661	2514	294	1 8	..	..	6	2 4 5
6	12	3	1411	182	28751	2877	343	1 8½	..	9	20	3 15 9	
7	137	40	9944	4140	308329	39484	11559	2 0	..	230	405	45 17 3	
8	79	14	4756	1620	97138	8241	1413	1 3	..	69	52	22 9 9	
9	25	37	2177	2272	52512	3515	1404	1 1½	..	52	61	7 16 3	
10	2	1	233	66	7754	644	71	1 8	..	..	5	1 1 3
11	19	6	1416	261	33097	3849	904	1 10	..	..	64	5 9 11
12	39	26	3941	1575	96261	9421	1526	1 8	..	73	111	13 7 8	
13	8	2	664	188	16297	1797	223	2 0	..	19	19	....
14	2	2	164	137	6618	806	57	2 2	..	..	13	....
15	63	20	5561	1370	140801	16038	2351	1 10	..	162	231	18 6 4	
16	14	7	1217	374	34873	3897	910	1 9	..	27	23	3 18 10	
471			274	38492	24731	1024252	113197	26015	..	141	691	1465	146 15 10

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Members.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, including any overdraft from Bank.	Reserve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Bldings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.	Owing to the Society for Goods.	
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
WELLINGBOROUGH AND KETTERING DISTRICT—Con.									
Productive Societies:—									
Avalon (Rothwell Boot and Shoe)	384	7942	10673	20650	25552	6100	..	24239	3403 17
Crompton Boot Manufac. (Desborough)	267	5423	1878	5208	8723	2393	275	3387	1795 18
Finedon Boot and Shoe ..	28	5316	2026	3802	6952	..	..	3468	3931 19
Higham Ferrers Boot & Shoe	275	7224	5056	3615	11791	1807	..	1091	3063 20
Kettering Boot and Shoe ..	652	11416	15461	5028	28189	2565	..	1729	6224 21
" Clothing	1459	30698	24828	32286	93199	16300	235	2214	107648 22
" Corset M'facturers	439	16935	1964	3344	22144	3300	300	1051	3477 23
" Union Boot & Shoe	312	3866	4779	2368	9363	1000	..	181	2672 24
Northamptonshire Productive (Wollaston)	226	3654	6767	4681	9446	700	..	6927	1679 25
Pioneer Boot (North'mp'n)	68	1674	120	681	2654	665	..	41	26 26
Ringstead Unity	26	3988	3207	5	10005	431	..	185	2899 27
St. Crispin Product. (Raunds)	66	7400	11690	5308	17800	1800	..	6084	7391 28
Wellingboro' Ideal Cloth'rs	1355	28861	9655	37515	86130	23883	..	22565	12580 29
" Midland Boot	376	9174	4232	6901	11766	3709	..	11668	6179 30
Produc. Socs. Total for 1918	5933	143571	102336	140387	339814	64653	810	84830	162936
District Total for 1918	34794	828314	294784	171143	507575	210550	211306	447216	166911
Retail Societies Total for previous year (1917)									
Productive Societies Total for previous year (1917)	5410	121997	75778	102704	246103	59119	576	36131	109098
District Total for previous year (1917)	33213	711927	175516	130100	370210	199812	208302	340169	113832
No. 3—LEICESTER DISTRICT—									
Retail Distrib. Societies—									
Ashby-de-la-Zouch	555	2105	1126	251	2565	1345	..	128	113 1
Barrow-on-Soar	220	740	110	..	981	..	..	312	81 2
Barwell	2050	40803	2719	2314	10767	9438	7618	24911	.. 3
Broughton Astley	168	1722	..	93	732	464	..	734	.. 4
Burbage	766	10138	476	330	4935	3076	1349	3597	125 5
Coalville	6379	82590	23686	9385	55813	28540	8926	33558	1008 6
Cosby	216	1997	1391	250	1049	638	812	1748	.. 7
Croft	137	988	513	85	1231	25	..	745	41 8
Enderby	1229	30055	3332	4913	9576	15606	3456	12437	387 9
Fleckney	437	2136	872	289	2281	681	600	451	.. 10
Glenfield	262	4034	415	274	1186	1650	1332	1153	.. 11
Great Glen	104	443	685	50	281	945	..	122	16 12
Great Wigston	2180	56566	4473	2692	18015	16899	13252	19867	.. 13
Groby	148	2665	53	279	922	..	..	2605	.. 14
Hathern	280	5947	2044	122	2922	1553	2950	1500	.. 15
Hinckley	3880	83548	5019	3949	14908	13561	45007	31841	.. 16
Huncote	180	4359	467	268	945	2186	1890	2271	.. 17
Kirby Muxloe	158	1440	..	112	613	574	..	638	.. 18
Leicester	28737	421024	79189	11637	114328	194864	58498	188125	.. 19
Loughborough Industrial	491	1592	1702	196	2239	288	886	537	29 20
" Wkg. Men's	429	1306	1176	..	1357	1242	..	682	.. 21
Markfield	201	1180	125	278	1035	378	241	357	31 22
Melton Mowbray	2445	19046	7282	736	20795	10079	..	2286	703 23
Mount Sorrel	485	4619	849	653	3657	1129	..	2129	87 24
Oadby	355	4356	686	114	679	1983	..	2777	.. 25
*Quorndon .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	26
Ratby	263	655	1394	197	1121	979	234	197	135 27
Rothley	257	990	..	145	1196	150	..	249	115 28
Sapcote	142	528	226	..	570	470	22	236	29 29
Shepshed	1199	33607	3802	6	7939	7585	5419	18028	554 30

* No recent information available.

No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.			Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.							
Distributive.	Productive.		Distributive.	Productive.		Net Profit.	Interest on Share Capital.	Average Dividend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.			
			£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.	
17	..	222	..	18797	140885	8138	393	..	4050	..	250	2 1 8	
18	..	96	..	7813	48797	1717	250	..	..	40	..	2 0 0
19	..	84	..	8514	45269	4288	263	..	872	..	52	1 0 0	
20	..	70	..	7187	39139	1704	344	0 6	478	..	10	1 12 0	
21	..	208	..	23122	124952	8262	560	0 5	1761	125	140	6 0 0	
22	5	929	2781	59096	304082	29246	1389	1 0	4344	250	384	8 10 0	
23	3	215	1114	12082	82000	3744	681	0 6	980	125	102	3 0 0	
24	2	60	292	6000	37232	1596	182	..	435	40	192	2 11 2	
25	..	66	..	8981	47359	3528	178	0 4	536	20	..	1 10 0	
26	..	26	..	2649	9957	648	84	0 4	85	15	..	0 12 6	
27	..	84	..	8964	43516	337	441	..	..	..	11	0 10 0
28	..	116	..	13968	96626	8021	370	..	4498	..	..	2 2 0
29	..	860	..	58308	248862	27529	1387	1 0	2231	300	543	6 15 5	
30	..	141	..	14429	84878	4639	391	0 10 1	1241	104	55	2 0 0	
10			3177	4187	249910	1354554	103397	6913	..	21511	1019	1739	49 4 9
481			3451	42679	274641	2378806	216594	32928	..	21652	1710	3204	187 0 7
438			282	32745	19591	903839	100062	22414	..	546	722	759	140 18 8
9			2982	4716	194838	1081061	81115	5907	..	18202	1165	1121	38 5 0
447			3264	37461	214429	1983500	181177	28321	..	18748	1887	1880	179 3 8
1	9	4	622	420	17077	698	86	0 11	..	..	3	3 7 6
2	3	..	305	..	7594	660	7	1 6	..	..	2	1 0 2
3	35	4	2769	570	71278	8769	1422	2 0	..	100	42	10 16 0	
4	4	..	166	..	4042	415	72	1 9	..	..	2	0 17 0
5	11	5	1127	259	26743	2671	408	2 0	..	..	20	3 12 5
6	176	56	14869	6213	336482	40009	3567	2 0	..	332	149	32 5 10	
7	1	..	298	..	8536	903	96	2 1	..	..	3	1 2 6
8	1	1	289	117	7169	479	47	1 3	..	..	1	0 14 6
9	22	29	1524	2499	49194	6445	1284	2 0	..	..	56	6 2 2
10	6	2	504	175	13973	998	90	1 6	..	..	7	2 5 0
11	3	2	216	154	9026	886	176	1 7	..	..	12	1 6 0
12	2	1	143	139	3507	257	23	1 4	..	..	1	..
13	43	12	4066	1020	71642	6694	2561	1 14	..	33	79	11 5 0	
14	2	1	313	89	7765	870	117	2 0 1	..	..	5	0 15 8
15	5	5	513	390	12719	920	216	1 8	..	..	10	1 9 2
16	57	13	5123	1501	116631	18554	3250	2 9 1	..	5	100	19 9 7	
17	3	..	255	..	6011	639	156	1 6 1	..	10	9	0 17 9	
18	4	..	296	..	5930	522	64	1 6	..	..	..	0 16 1
19	672	184	64279	20337	1079388	77369	16500	1 24	1481	706	368	147 4 10	
20	5	1	533	107	11284	1160	53	1 9	..	15	1	2 12 5	
21	4	..	484	..	10441	1281	51	..	..	..	..	..
22	4	..	472	..	10833	1010	53	2 0	..	..	3	1 0 7
23	59	15	3567	726	71329	3869	776	1 2	..	..	25	12 10 0
24	8	3	867	303	23012	2321	208	1 10	..	..	32	2 10 0
25	5	2	549	225	11885	972	162	1 4	..	..	6	1 15 5
26	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
27	2	2	330	146	8826	593	30	1 0	..	..	..	1 6 10
28	4	2	315	170	10907	906	46	1 8	..	..	1	..
29	3	..	125	..	3947	270	22	0 9	..	..	1	..
30	19	6	1911	632	52603	4332	1292	1 5	..	96	1	6 6 9	

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Members.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, including any Overdraft from Bank.	Re-serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Buildings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.
							House Property.	All other Investments.	
LEICESTER DISTRICT—Con.		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Stoney Stanton (Hinckley)	384	3383	848	143	1848	1508	..	1514	..
Whetstone	349	5902	..	215	2393	51	963	3537	..
Retail Socs. Total for 1918	65086	830455	144660	39976	288879	317887	153455	359362	3425
Productive Societies:—									
Excelsior Boot and Shoe (Sileby)	115	3976	5817	4540	12275	1610	..	781	3820
Glenfield Boot and Shoe ..	264	3521	5021	1893	3839	1429	..	3487	2733
Leicester Anchor B. & Shoe	569	8567	8519	7722	21645	5089	..	943	7675
„ Boot and Shoe ..	1014	13266	16138	19668	30817	6487	..	9619	7708
„ Carriage Build'rs	113	1711	3669	612	4673	2591	..	3	999
„ Printing	432	9935	11672	2993	12591	8922	..	6593	8081
„ Self Help Boot & S.	229	3469	2700	3744	6247	2654	..	346	3799
Morning Star Sundries (Leicester)	412	20048	21381	1470	8960	33183	..	2429	8485
Speroe Boot and Shoe (Barwell)	282	4669	9117	4973	9418	2217	..	8457	4244
Wigston Hosiers	520	15605	3056	5068	11198	5187	..	9519	5681
Produc. Socs. Total for 1918	3950	84767	87090	53583	121663	69360	..	42177	53225
District Total for 1918	59036	915222	231750	93559	410542	387256	153455	401539	56650
Retail Societies Total for previous year (1917)	54344	737839	132667	33843	212051	297572	144806	334292	4661
Productive Societies Total for previous year (1917)	3627	61312	56857	33564	108875	40123	..	26295	58456
District Total for previous year (1917)	57971	799151	189524	67407	321526	337695	144806	360587	63117
No. 4—COVENTRY DISTRICT—									
Retail Distrib. Societies—									
Atherstone	732	8690	1267	662	4644	3986	929	2394	227
Blue Lias (Stockton)	118	439	..	10	399	11	..	193	24
Broadwell New	36	108	..	20	99	..	..	111	..
Coventry Perseverance	25282	353765	5037	23412	134522	69944	83474	122255	1061
Eathorpe and Marton	234	1090	..	490	928	236	..	963	100
Harbury	418	3881	251	214	1850	769	488	1553	..
Lockhurst Lane	4023	47141	2147	4735	22396	13425	10128	18701	..
Long Itchington	223	2379	14	89	2016	90	..	878	105
Nuneaton	8419	71168	16590	7845	42590	29859	9638	24558	1160
*Pailton .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
*Paradise (Foleshill) .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Rugby	8247	91072	15264	5390	56045	37022	11876	19817	821
Souham	328	1517	..	151	792	693	..	597	119
Stoneleigh	111	321	..	..	341	55	..	273	..
Retail Socs. Total for 1918	48171	581571	40570	43018	266627	156090	116528	192263	3617
Productive Societies:—									
dCoventry Builders	12	134	668	..	82	498	..	28	23
Coventry Licensed Trade Supply	131	1537	848	2250	1181	2040	..	2495	182
Produc. Socs. Total for 1918	143	1671	1516	2250	1263	2538	..	2523	205
District Total for 1918	58314	583242	42086	45268	267890	158628	116528	194816	3822

* No recent information available. d 1916 Figures.

No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.			Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.							
						Net Profit.	Interest on Share Capital	Average Dividend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.			
Distributive.	Productive.	Distributive.	Productive.	Educational Purposes.	Charitable Purposes.					Co-operative Union.			
			£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£	s. d.
31	5	2	433	218	12014	758	147	1 1	..	..	4	1 17	9
32	2	..	531	..	16825	1576	212	1 8	..	..	3	1 15	5
	1179	352	107794	36410	2097713	187806	33194	..	1481	1297	946	277 2	4
33	..	72	..	8520	51906	4483	186	0 5	1274	189	..	0 12	0
34	..	73	..	8436	31052	2057	173	0 4	403	50	56	2 1	6
35	..	168	..	16681	58324	3314	430	..	..	100	..	4 10	0
36	..	224	..	24425	130898	10658	633	0 5	1807	140	200	8 0	0
37	..	32	..	3802	16918	396	84	..	..	..	..	0 12	0
38	..	105	..	14374	73534	3667	472	0 3	876	225	90	2 8	0
39	..	60	..	6782	44221	2476	199	0 2	152	35	8	1 10	0
40	..	24	..	3181	75611	3627	650	..	92	40	21	1 10	10
41	..	83	..	8223	51744	5957	596	0 6	1035	60	48	1 11	6
42	..	64	..	5209	79280	6909	722	0 4	353	88	33	1 15	0
	..	905	..	97633	613488	43544	4145	..	5992	927	456	24 10	10
	1179	1257	107794	134043	2711201	231350	37339	..	7473	2224	1402	301 13	2
	1158	292	75544	25118	1934085	156174	28475	..	1516	1134	592	257 7	2
	..	915	..	81165	534606	37911	3307	..	4166	648	487	23 13	3
	1158	1207	75544	106283	2468691	194085	31782	..	5682	1872	1079	281 0	5
1	16	3	1164	302	28957	2284	396	1 6	..	10	7	4 2	0
2	2	..	145	..	4440	289	17	2 0	..	..	..	0 12	6
3	1	..	72	..	1238	85	4	..	..	..	..	..	..
4	513	116	46112	12622	876875	96499	12910	1 9	..	1753	1255	126 14	2
5	3	..	370	..	6971	498	26	1 4	..	..	5	..	..
6	6	4	453	115	13359	949	172	1 3	..	..	3	2 3	8
7	58	8	5314	1080	139128	16828	2053	1 11	..	377	..	20 14	2
8	3	2	337	79	9515	673	108	1 3	..	..	2	..	..
9	171	30	15907	5773	317689	28414	3123	1 6	..	361	362	42 13	4
10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
12	222	59	20510	6106	324094	26219	4108	1 4	..	136	134	42 6	0
13	4	2	395	76	7515	447	67	1 0	..	..	7	..	..
14	2	1	297	30	7188	442	11	1 8	..	..	..	..	..
	1001	225	91076	26183	1736969	173627	22995	..	..	2637	1775	239 5	10
15	..	1	..	65	113	110	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
16	2	7	301	803	7164	756	76	..	35	..	1	1 10	0
	2	8	301	868	7277	756	76	..	35	..	1	1 10	0
	1003	233	91377	27051	1744246	174383	23071	..	35	2637	1776	240 15	10

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Mem- bers.	LIABILITIES.				ASSETS.			
		Share Capital.	Loans, includ- ing any Over- draft from Bank.	Re- serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Bldings, Machin- ery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.
							House Prop- erty.	All other Invest- ments.	
COVENTRY DISTRICT—Con.		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
<i>Retail Societies Total for previous year (1917)</i>	45436	514055	37675	36392	195418	154552	122888	169882	3529
<i>Productive Societies Total for previous year (1917)</i>	207	2872	1762	2017	1563	2095	..	2234	268
<i>District Total for previous year (1917)</i>	45643	516927	39437	38409	196981	157547	122888	172116	3797
No. 5—BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT									
<i>Retail Distrib. Societies—</i>									
Alcester	4816	54772	5680	4582	40730	16644	535	13324	842
Bidford	783	10478	1087	688	3696	1792	5842	2135	535
Birmingham Industrial	41933	488752	45264	39523	228111	214300	29567	156256	3714
aChurch Lench	58	156	15	105	197	34	..	199	46
Dudley	7115	13588	3251	3688	17319	8493	..	2842	..
Fenny Compton	350	2314	23	109	1595	517	..	771	..
Halesowen and Hasbury	1924	17141	11226	..	8837	18305	801	2804	756
Highley	220	3387	..	407	2368	968	..	823	36
Kidderminster	3608	69743	2289	5058	23667	9976	5969	14746	240
Soho (Smethwick)	9250	79649	9668	7948	58151	32929	..	22387	334
Ten Acres and Stirchley (Birmingham)	11732	208598	18796	12628	89332	64577	2928	111135	352
Worcester	6783	66557	7595	6376	30294	35421	2263	21877	352
<i>Retail Socs. Total for 1918</i>	88572	1015135	104883	31112	504297	403956	47905	379359	7207
<i>Productive Societies:—</i>									
Alcester Needle Makers	168	1832	300	..	1480	475	..	307	638
Birmingham Printers	269	14523	2210	1268	1834	12080	..	3839	5505
Midland Woodworkers	54	595	149	100	860	46	..	6	508
<i>Produc. Socs. Total for 1918</i>	491	16950	2659	1368	4174	12601	..	4152	6651
<i>District Total for 1918</i>	89063	1032085	107542	32480	508471	416557	47905	389511	13858
<i>Retail Societies Total for previous year (1917)</i>	90256	833209	80145	52938	360665	411902	44827	314631	8600
<i>Productive Societies Total for previous year (1917)</i>	439	13668	3139	650	4209	8526	..	4402	4373
<i>District Total for previous year (1917)</i>	90755	847848	83284	54011	364894	420428	45685	319763	12973
No. 6—STAFFORD DISTRICT—									
<i>Retail Distrib. Societies—</i>									
Bridgnorth	285	1566	630	268	1171	1086	458	267	113
Burton-on-Trent	11380	117304	10062	6606	66296	43419	2581	52451	23
Cannock	5050	57512	9270	3202	19447	22756	470	29395	..
Hollington	101	971	..	202	98	108	303	761	2
Mayfield	248	2076	319	376	1562	106	..	1469	..
Rugeley	1800	21160	1940	1764	13093	5758	437	7748	280
Stafford	3436	34160	1131	2642	18488	13188	712	13272	7
Stone	987	14265	536	1480	4465	6823	..	3950	658
Tamworth	5900	94292	4728	4804	31787	55948	1828	28600	..
Tipton	1314	8716	378	1743	15066	2191	..	739	293
†Walsall	14043	123608	9245	6650	56450	62331	3432	33590	..
Wednesbury (New)	1608	13252	861	464	10484	4903	619	1709	537
Wheaton Aston	78	706	26	450	318	340	..	772	..
Wolverhampton	7015	68167	2054	1111	40882	16386	3107	12914	1950
<i>Retail Socs. Total for 1918</i>	54145	557755	41180	31762	279602	235332	13947	187637	3856

† Nine months' trading.

No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.												
					Net Profit.	Interest on Share Capital	Average Dividend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.								
Distributive.	Productive.	Distributive.	Productive.	£					£	£	Educational Purposes.	Charitable Purposes.	Co-operative Union.				
													s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.
	912	215	73413	23316	1551719	144748	21272	..	..	2962	387	231 19 6			
	2	18	324	1017	5328	554	78	..	20	..	5	2 2 0					
	914	233	73737	24333	1557047	145302	21350	..	20	2962	392	234 1 6					
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	126	13	13465	1587	188722	13395	2424	1 3	..	..	152	24 15 4			
	8	3	850	276	22155	1113	427	0 7	..	..	12	3 15 0			
	1059	156	98226	17036	1382357	127883	20775	1 5	2912	1062	562	220 15 0					
	1	..	101	..	2780	200	6	2 0	..	..	..	..	
	76	13	5441	1733	138588	8940	461	1 6	..	20	20	15 0 0					
	4	1	314	103	9999	547	86	1 0	..	..	8	1 16 6			
	36	11	2557	953	59950	1693	795	0 6	..	..	13	9 8 1			
	4	2	341	134	11337	1161	154	1 6	..	..	17	1 1 0			
	68	22	6576	1725	132371	15751	2907	1 11	..	1	85	18 10 7					
	185	19	16353	3339	285630	24332	3651	1 4	510	307	..	48 8 9					
11 12	259	30	22997	4054	448723	46569	9090	1 7 1/2	..	1010	188	60 18 0					
	147	27	9907	3604	201261	16719	2873	1 5	..	364	57	35 10 0					
13 14 15	1973	297	177137	34544	2883873	258303	43649	..	3422	2764	1114	439 18 3					
	..	16	..	928	8818	637	91	..	..	..	..	1 10 0	
	..	70	..	8527	30031	4429	654	1 0	1091	75	78	2 2 0					
	..	7	..	822	2095	201	22	1 0	21	..	2	0 5 0					
	..	93	..	10277	40944	5267	767	..	1112	75	80	3 17 0					
	1973	390	177137	44821	2924817	263570	44416	..	4534	2839	1194	443 15 3					
	1948	263	143420	28944	2631067	237657	36595	..	2860	2795	1046	428 5 10					
	..	87	..	7308	25092	3447	506	..	242	20	22	3 0 0					
	1948	350	143705	36252	2656853	241317	37147	..	3102	2815	1068	431 15 10					
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	6	2	345	175	8242	614	70	1 7 1/2	..	..	4	1 13 4			
	278	58	24583	5338	422672	44263	5087	1 8	467	471	338	58 9 5					
	93	22	6495	2742	148767	13547	2425	1 4	..	120	113	23 3 6					
	1	..	116	..	3256	265	46	2 0	..	5	..	0 10 6					
	6	1	474	97	11052	1087	86	1 8 1/2	47	24	..	1 5 9					
	39	9	2735	891	67214	4672	942	1 5 1/2	..	..	30	9 10 4			
	60	13	4437	1370	102045	8582	1518	1 6	..	70	34	17 6 3					
	10	4	1072	432	28363	1635	625	1 6	..	26	4	..					
	145	40	10768	4710	218402	20558	3977	1 5 1/2	175	145	160	30 4 0					
	19	3	1523	390	52773	6048	396	2 0	..	..	15	6 15 7			
	282	45	17150	3626	270036	25212	4026	1 3	555	150	65	76 15 6					
	34	10	2071	742	48902	4008	559	1 6	..	..	7	..			
	1	..	94	..	2218	243	25	3 0	3	..	..	..		
	102	30	6942	5090	175762	12389	2761	1 4 1/2	197	..	70	35 18 5					
1076	237	78814	25603	1559704	143123	22543	..	1444	1011	849	261 12 7						

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Mem- bers.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, includ- ing any Over- draft from Bank.	Re- serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Bldings, Machin- ery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.	Owing to the Society for Goods.	
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
STAFFORD DISTRICT— <i>Con.</i> Productive Society:— Walsall Locks & Cart Gear	276	9822	3853	8056	12386	5366	315	12016	15
District Total for 1918	34421	567577	45033	39818	201988	240698	14262	199653	
Retail Societies Total for previous year (1917)	52793	484313	34779	24431	183017	214289	17026	201204	6393
Productive Societies Total for previous year (1917)	254	8884	3556	7468	11652	5072	324	5747	9586
District Total for previous year (1917)	53047	493197	38335	31899	195569	219361	17350	206951	15979
No. 7—DERBY DISTRICT—									
Retail Distrib. Societies—									
Bolsover	1934	24991	3303	251	18781	10179	439	2409	1826
Brassington	85	182		122	709	30		122	26
Codnor Park and Ironville. . . .	1060	25186	2593	437	10352	3475	4945	11262	508
Derby	32667	461327	15105	25291	183916	192318	78480	102907	5196
Ilkeston	5656	68139	5069	2548	43083	23038	4484	14067	1236
Langley Mill and Aldercar	6679	121527	19448	4537	54074	41202	23968	43976	1271
Lea and Holloway	426	1976	1715	213	1339	381	1608	709	285
Long Eaton	12192	251164	36158	12639	118923	76675	38024	87354	2362
Milford (Hopping Hill).	356	1771	127	200	1782	135		796	228
Pinxton	1070	36429		1348	10800	3640	8244	16620	536
Ripley	13363	352240	7706	19948	132881	61457	45088	172977	38
Tibshelf	1509	26399	2037	2114	16071	4155	919	13492	619
Wirksworth	641	3034	33	883	4239	310	172	566	379
Retail Socs. Total for 1918	77638	1374365	93294	70531	596050	416995	206371	467257	14510
Productive Societies:—									
a Derby Printers	72	1165	1836	798	403	2767	..	587	366
Long Eaton Printers.	27	526	..	93	474	107	..	167	190
Produc. Socs. Total for 1918	99	1691	1836	891	877	2874	..	754	556
District Total for 1918	77737	1376056	95130	71422	597827	419869	206371	468011	15066
Retail Societies Total for previous year (1917)	76178	1207817	73168	58821	402791	420860	223580	427829	15619
Productive Societies Total for previous year (1917)	99	1691	1836	881	746	2884	..	881	467
District Total for previous year (1917)	76277	1209508	75004	59702	403537	423744	223580	428710	16086
No. 8—NOTTINGHAM DISTRICT									
Retail Distrib. Societies -									
Annesley Colliery	886	13080	430	1059	6746	100		10138	363
Annesley Woodhouse	636	16874	1672	1075	8527	826	4170	9191	..
Bulwell	2467	33106	10918	2487	19906	9633	5983	15613	71
*Calverton									
Cinder Hill	2808	26622	6961	3619	20872	8537	1932	10390	..
Hucknall Torkard	4612	147417	22778	7236	29952	16954	25002	119736	..
Keyworth	269	2183	244	73	1057	943		387	421
Kirkby-in-Ashfield	2874	61296	3155	1973	38002	16798	8129	12459	1001
Langwith	812	12510	712	1243	7853	1145		6953	825
Lowdham	420	4799	186	331	1449	1991	327	1692	136
Mansfield and Sutton	13580	229121	9336	15849	91965	35301	40917	114864	621
Netherfield	3160	27058	2086	1272	22673	9276	2282	2162	430
Nottingham	18937	251191	2814	15777	126057	111238	9831	48813	3223
Pleasley and Pleasley Hill. . . .	1866	31831	6079	3762	13261	6665	1578	24025	..

* No recent figures available.

	No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.						
	Distributive.	Pro- ductive.	Distributive.	Pro- ductive.		Net Profit.	In- terest on Share Capital	Aver- age Divi- dend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.		
										Educa- tional Pur- poses.	Chari- table Pur- poses.	Co-operative Union.
			£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.
15	..	290	..	32517	74750	5925	709	..	..	108	50	1 10 0
	1076	527	78814	58120	1634454	149048	23252	..	1444	1119	899	263 2 7
	974	256	70267	22092	1509517	128867	21568	..	1460	996	655	249 15 7
	..	287	..	22667	57444	4321	639	..	2625	127	100	1 10 0
	974	543	70267	44759	1566961	133188	22207	..	4085	1123	755	251 5 7
1	44	4	3373	340	82505	5492	1188	0 11	..	..	49	8 3 4
2	1	..	123	..	4072	303	7	1 10 1	..	2	2	0 8 9
3	34	4	2344	254	59142	5280	1140	1 6	..	32	42	5 6 3
4	861	301	76134	32080	1341783	151793	15547	1 11	..	1268	7948	166 13 4
5	140	30	12042	2583	232211	18031	3034	1 3	..	185	122	26 0 0
6	197	54	17599	6223	296443	33043	5063	1 6	567	567	88	33 17 2
7	5	..	430	..	8518	672	127	1 6	..	..	10	2 9 9
8	323	90	24557	10697	576616	60865	10046	1 9 1	..	715	..	61 3 4
9	8	..	495	..	13707	1585	82	2 0	..	..	..	1 16 10
10	27	..	2014	..	56253	6661	1636	2 0	..	..	12	5 10 1
11	281	57	17595	4903	574971	70603	15352	1 11 1	..	720	237	68 10 6
12	43	4	3678	386	89128	9375	1073	1 8	..	100	25	7 13 7
13	9	1	635	116	23499	2582	130	2 4	..	..	14	3 6 10
	1973	545	161019	57582	3358848	366195	54425	..	567	3589	8549	390 19 9
14 15	..	10	..	793	3152	315	57	0 10	27	8	9	0 15 0
	..	4	..	622	1084	228	42	..	59	6	6	0 5 0
	..	14	..	1415	4836	543	99	..	77	14	15	1 0 0
	1973	559	161019	58997	3363684	366738	54524	..	644	3603	8564	391 19 9
	1895	548	138017	46486	3171110	329315	50861	..	1031	3417	7437	377 4 5
	..	14	..	1279	4241	477	110	..	62	11	13	1 0 0
	1895	562	138017	47765	3175351	32992	50971	..	1093	3428	7450	378 4 5
1	15	1	1440	136	51212	7345	563	2 7 1	..	..	11	4 12 0
2	14	1	1287	100	42462	4406	744	1 9	48	101	16	3 0 10
3	55	16	6224	1177	114856	10398	1547	1 5	..	40	74	12 17 6
4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
5	59	16	4878	2328	108286	11196	1022	2 0	..	188	64	14 12 0
6	94	57	8468	4765	178651	19584	5040	1 9 1	..	312	315	23 4 0
7	4	3	443	210	13645	761	95	1 0	..	..	6	1 8 4
8	90	20	7461	2116	152077	15568	2783	1 4 1	173	135	97	14 10 10
9	18	..	1634	..	42899	4597	562	2 0	..	..	15	4 1 9
10	4	1	428	128	9759	418	213	0 6	..	..	5	2 2 7
11	276	41	23413	4931	513582	49693	10089	1 4	..	467	177	67 14 6
12	68	10	5338	879	110866	8296	1201	1 3	..	..	64	15 12 6
13	465	93	35426	9973	583664	58951	11192	1 6	1699	183	454	97 9 0
14	36	5	2925	259	83060	7985	1374	1 6	..	20	31	9 8 1

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Mem- bers.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, includ- ing any Over- draft from Bank.	Re- serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Bldings, Machin- ery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
NOTTINGHAM DISTRICT—Con.									
Pleasley Works	47	47	218	44	649	..	..	259	16
Radcliffe-on-Trent	329	2644	2164	160	2640	2364	1174	162	18
Ruddington	690	14722	2295	701	3368	4289	5897	4882	80
Selston	820	21155	2672	477	12084	5983	1912	0261	17
Southwell	517	4224	636	332	3377	1687	..	1310	18
Stanton Hill	1549	23307	4946	2348	10399	5005	6416	10106	19
Stapleford and Sandiacre..	2828	49563	5392	2535	22355	14461	8471	20134	20
Warsop Vale	332	7300	..	642	5084	560	1831	1276	21
Woodborough	98	951	78	573	1905	358	245	297	22
Retail Socs. Total for 1918	60537	981001	86372	93568	449281	254114	126106	420610	23
Productive Societies:—									
Jacksdale Co-operative									
Baking	2	800	..	145	114	418	..	768	16
Kirkby-in-Ashfield Manu- facturers	328	10353	13353	4148	24153	3143	..	6158	24
Nottingham Printers	108	751	477	332	548	347	..	736	26
Produc. Socs. Total for 1918	438	11904	13830	4025	24815	3908	..	7662	26
District Total for 1918	60975	992905	100202	68193	474096	258022	126106	428272	
Retail Societies Total for previous year (1917)									
Productive Societies Total for previous year (1917)	59338	891787	75394	42411	329295	245291	130789	408679	11637
District Total for previous year (1917)	413	9814	12669	4251	16108	5121	..	4393	14718
	59751	901601	88063	46662	345403	250412	130789	413072	26385
No. 9—LINCOLN DISTRICT— Retail Distrib. Societies—									
Boston	2466	13227	5900	1519	10963	9609	640	2535	937
Gainsborough	5071	105466	7579	4281	54421	42724	15059	13544	641
Grantham	3432	33987	2562	3335	16248	16460	2504	11124	330
Great Grimsby	10859	77802	32136	5918	59928	14316	23512	34456	2117
Huntingdon	674	7213	2609	804	3585	1714	300	5209	178
Lincoln	18195	380354	174175	27426	141145	155093	133185	198243	4821
Newark	2631	22028	1852	1646	6115	6602	1450	13905	36
Peterborough	18498	252290	13814	24443	108444	81628	14542	115365	2792
Retford	1734	20268	1417	1326	9651	5562	541	7804	804
St. Ives (Hunts.)	749	3312	1749	502	2482	2287	..	1602	130
Saxby	94	96	382	..	449	..	..	365	153
Skegness	280	791	530	11	1412	1055	..	403	149
Spalding	1460	9417	2688	461	5239	5933	..	2703	168
Walsgate	110	303	11	141	171	112	..	302	52
Wisbech Phoenix	560	1775	1387	426	2387	604	260	483	227
Retail Socs. Total for 1918	66813	928239	248811	72239	422040	344199	191993	407443	13535
Productive Society:— Lincoln Land and Building									
	627	5370	51852	4086	345	514	48482	12102	923
District Total for 1918	67440	933609	300663	76325	422985	344713	240475	419545	14458
Retail Societies Total for previous year (1917)									
Productive Societies Total for previous year (1917)	66645	791326	218431	58008	290833	307637	203838	361936	15267
District Total for previous year (1917)	620	5370	47114	3940	392	544	53509	2146	290
	67265	796696	265545	51957	291225	308181	257347	364082	15557

		No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.						Subscriptions.		
		Distributive.	Productive.	Distributive.	Productive.		Net Profit.	Interest on Share Capital.	Average Dividend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Educational Purposes.	Charitable Purposes.	Co-operative Union.		
				£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£	s. d.	
15	2	..	105	..	3115	358	6	2 6½	..	..	..	..	..	..
16	4	2	414	155	9784	810	162	1 0	..	..	..	..	1 5 4	..
17	12	3	993	398	24978	2387	669	1 4	..	..	15	3 11 0	..	..
18	24	2	1842	213	43075	3770	916	1 5½	..	42	21	4 0 7	..	..
19	14	4	803	268	17281	1320	187	1 6	11	23	11	2 15 10	..	..
20	40	4	3307	123	72067	4942	1049	1 2½	..	54	40	8 8 5	..	..
21	81	23	6516	2111	143423	14539	2169	1 7½	..	161	42	14 13 8	..	..
22	7	..	771	..	22580	2338	300	1 6	..	27	6	1 11 0	..	..
23	2	..	166	..	3634	590	35	2 0	..	..	..	..	..	..
		1384	302	114282	29570	2344896	230252	41918	..	1931	1753	1464	306 19 9	..	
24	..	5	..	491	5554	309	40	0 9	..	..	..	..	0 5 0	..
25	7	122	971	7273	100934	7420	417	0 10½	619	52	124	2 2 0	..	..
26	..	7	..	914	2482	444	38	1 0	44	12	..	0 15 0	..	..
		7	134	971	8678	108970	8173	495	..	663	64	124	3 2 0	..	
		1391	436	115253	38248	2453866	238425	42413	..	2594	1817	1588	310 1 9	..	
		1418	312	91417	26957	2209634	206517	39034	..	2641	1300	1218	283 4 1	..	
		..	146	..	6803	92988	5226	447	..	390	32	62	2 13 0	..	
		1418	458	91417	33760	2302622	211743	39581	..	3031	1332	1280	285 17 1	..	
1	42	12	3495	837	52854	3772	574	1 0	45	10	44	12 13 10	..	..
2	166	59	11670	5119	210908	16827	4704	1 2½	..	129	50	26 4 0	..	..
3	57	24	5043	2687	127674	9470	1429	1 5	..	..	28	16 5 0	..	..
4	206	42	16934	4177	327673	24476	3316	1 3	..	237	559	53 18 0	..	..
5	8	4	883	125	17498	1730	361	1 9	..	..	4	3 11 8	..	..
6	483	200	45033	21777	729571	60585	14816	1 3½	..	686	374	94 8 0	..	..
7	36	5	2310	640	50173	5175	995	1 7½	..	..	21	12 14 8	..	..
8	437	129	30764	10346	539500	61233	11113	1 7	..	580	215	101 2 2	..	..
9	31	9	2425	536	60903	4105	908	1 0	..	27	19	8 8 0	..	..
10	10	3	796	206	13195	331	147	0 4½	4	2	3	4 0 2	..	..
11	2	..	139	..	3386	125	18	2 0	..	..	..	0 10 2	..	..
12	4	2	298	118	6853	401	34	1 0	..	..	4	1 7 1	..	..
13	21	4	1585	261	29580	1556	412	0 8	..	14	3	8 5 4	..	..
14	3	..	119	..	3963	213	12	1 4	..	..	..	..	..	..
15	9	2	572	186	14330	436	74	0 10	10	..	5	2 17 4	..	..
		1515	495	122066	47015	2189061	196435	38913	..	59	1685	1329	346 5 5	..	
16	..	4	..	740	1472	629	410	..	..	..	..	3 4 8	..	..
		1515	499	122066	47755	2190533	197064	39323	..	59	1685	1329	349 10 1	..	
		1604	487	96923	38892	2030715	180122	35100	..	85	1416	997	319 5 4	..	
		..	4	..	414	3467	777	475	..	..	..	3 4 10	..	..
		1604	491	96923	39306	2034182	180899	35575	..	85	1416	997	322 10 2	..	

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Mem- bers.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, includ- ing any Over- draft from Bank.	Re- serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Bldgs, Machin- ery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.
							House Prop- erty.	All other Invest- ments.	
No. 10—SHROPSHIRE & MID- WALES DISTRICT —		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Retail Distrib. Societies —									
Aberystwyth	407	676	675	63	960	927	..	312	123
Bourton	50	147	..	406	246	17	..	321	76
Chirk and District	715	8659	156	660	5251	4250	1212	481	26
Ellesmere	210	1389	..	140	414	470	..	630	141
Ironbridge & Coalbrookdale	1076	10887	8	850	6021	2797	491	3761	654
Newtown	1332	17593	1064	1456	5732	3496	1073	11386	782
Oakengates	2803	23040	934	3845	14330	5962	295	11664	359
Oswestry	1318	9914	3414	250	6871	3597	3393	970	63
Prees	381	1949	1158	308	1500	1504	279	878	358
St. Martin's	190	1686	112	305	809	664	..	514	386
Shrewsbury	4650	33531	12152	2262	19452	25715	3366	5414	299
Tibberton	36	68	..	..	301	5	..	95	..
Welsbpool	318	3102	..	327	2162	153	..	1304	218
Whitchurch	850	4388	2256	32	4034	2872	..	870	1452
District Total for 1918	14336	116929	21929	10904	68083	52429	10109	38690	4937
Totals, previous year (1917)	14094	97343	9135	7924	50862	37309	7632	31816	6107

No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.						
Distri- butive.	Pro- ductive.	Distri- butive.	Pro- ductive.		Net Profit.	In- terest on Share Capital	Aver- age Divi- dend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.		
									Educa- tional Pur- poses.	Chari- table Pur- poses.	Co-operative Union.
		£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.
1	4	1	278	65	5031	90	14	0 1½	..	..	2 1 11
2	1	1	64	26	1635	107	7	1 0	15	..	0 5 3
3	20	7	1685	741	37261	2637	376	1 4½	..	..	3 11 2
4	3	..	241	..	6147	392	56	1 10	..	..	1 1 0
5	22	4	1528	421	82017	2773	488	1 5	..	27	5 12 1
6	19	5	1330	667	39670	4924	727	2 0	..	65	6 9 8
7	56	16	4104	1545	89113	10251	938	1 8	..	65	14 10 0
8	26	5	1982	485	35441	2793	429	1 5	..	22	6 13 0
9	6	5	556	339	10571	515	85	1 1	..	..	1 15 0
10	6	2	522	230	10351	745	71	1 9	..	..	0 19 10
11	83	17	6438	1765	128271	11646	1390	1 6	145	145	23 9 8
12	1	..	72	..	2220	200	3	1 3	..	..	0 3 6
13	6	1	491	117	12363	1122	115	1 7	18	22	1 13 9
14	16	3	1040	247	43705	1678	195	1 9	..	..	3 12 11
	269	67	20340	6648	454696	39873	4894	..	178	346	223 71 18 9
	277	63	16017	5424	400696	33848	4528	..	128	266	115 68 19 6

SUMMARY OF THE

NAME OF DISTRICT.	No. of Societies.	No. of Members.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.					
			Share Capital.	Loans, including any Over-draft from Bank.	Re-serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Bldings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.	
								House Prop-erty.	All other Invest-ments.		
No. 1—NORTHAMPTON AND EARLS BARTON ..	18	15895	£ 181208	£ 61548	£ 12491	£ 84859	£ 75061	£ 28284	£ 92002	£ 888	1
„ 2—WELLINGBORO' AND KETTERING	30	34794	828314	204784	171143	507575	210550	211306	447216	166911	2
„ 3—LEICESTER	42	59036	915222	231750	93559	410542	387256	153455	401539	56650	3
„ 4—COVENTRY	16	48314	583242	42086	15268	267890	158628	116528	194816	3822	4
„ 5—BIRMINGHAM.....	15	89063	1032085	107542	82480	508471	416557	47905	383511	13858	5
„ 6—STAFFORD	15	54421	567577	45033	39818	291988	240698	14262	199653	16672	6
„ 7—DERBY.....	15	77737	1376056	95130	71422	597827	419869	206371	468011	15066	7
„ 8—NOTTINGHAM.....	26	60975	992905	100202	68193	474036	258022	126106	428272	18256	8
„ 9—LINCOLN	16	67440	933609	300663	76325	422985	344713	240475	419545	14458	9
„ 10—SHROPSHIRE AND MID-WALES.....	14	14336	116929	21929	10904	68083	52429	10109	38690	4937	10
Totals, 1918	207	522011	7527147	1210667	671603	3634316	2563783	1154801	3073255	311518	
Totals, 1917	212	513183	6529680	1016047	508822	2597776	2421984	1187105	2722606	274752	
Increase .....	..	8828	997467	194620	162781	1036540	141799	..	350649	36766	
Decrease.....	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	32304	..	..

Summary showing Members, Capital, Trade, &c.,

Retail Distrib. Societies ..	171	510054	£ 7251401	£ 945635	£ 456357	£ 3128379	£ 2401960	£ 1105194	£ 2907039	£ 64722
Productive Societies	36	11957	275746	264972	215246	505337	161823	49607	166216	246796
Total for Section for 1918	207	522011	7527147	1210667	671603	3634316	2563783	1154801	3073255	311518

Summary showing Members, Capital, Trade, &c., of
given for purposes of comparison. See also Introduction to

Retail Distrib. Socs. (1917)	174	502054	£ 6303101	£ 813336	£ 352915	£ 2208108	£ 2297600	£ 1131838	£ 2639647	£ 77496
Productive Societies ..	37	11069	225608	202711	155484	389648	124384	54409	82229	197256
Special Society ..	1	60	971	..	423	20	..	858	730	..
Total for Section (1917) ..	212	513183	6529680	1016047	508822	2597776	2421984	1187105	2722606	274752

MIDLAND SECTION.

	No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.					
	Distributive.	Productive.	Distributive.	Productive.		Net Profit.	Interest on Share Capital.	Am't Paid as Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.		
			£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£ s. d.
1	298	69	21220	6035	476743	43243	7305	54	759	338	72 0 8
2	481	3451	42679	274641	2378306	216594	32928	21652	1710	3204	187 0 7
3	1179	1257	107794	134043	2711201	231350	37339	7473	2224	1402	301 13 2
4	1003	283	91377	27051	1744246	174383	23071	35	2637	1776	240 15 10
5	1973	390	177137	44821	2924817	263570	44416	4534	2839	1194	443 15 3
6	1076	527	78814	58120	1634454	149048	23252	1444	1119	899	263 2 7
7	1973	559	161019	58997	3363684	366738	54524	644	3603	8564	391 19 9
8	1391	436	115253	38248	2453866	238425	42413	2594	1817	1588	310 1 9
9	1515	499	122066	47755	2190533	197064	33323	59	1685	1329	349 10 1
10	269	67	20340	6648	454696	39873	4894	178	346	223	71 18 9
	11158	7488	937699	696359	20333046	1920288	309465	38667	18739	20517	2631 18 5
	10878	7238	760704	556827	18574350	1689659	277419	36021	17632	15219	2502 11 2
	280	250	176995	139532	1758696	230629	32046	2646	1107	5298	129 7 3

of various classes of Societies for Year 1918.

	11139	2863	932240	294321	18126755	1752054	295851	9277	16532	18052	2552 19 2
	19	4625	5459	402038	2206201	168234	13614	29390	2207	2465	78 19 3
	11158	7488	937699	696359	20333046	1920288	309465	38667	18739	20517	2631 18 5

various classes of Societies for previous Year (1917),

Statistics for tables showing increases of membership, &c.

	10867	2785	755379	241336	16768529	1555618	265904	10314	15629	13409	2426 13 1
	11	4453	5040	315491	1804827	133928	11469	25707	2003	1810	75 8 1
	..	..	285	..	694	213	46	..	..	..	0 10 0
	10878	7238	760704	556327	18574350	1689659	277419	36021	17632	15219	2502 11 2

NORTHERN

RETURN OF TRADE, &c., of Co-operative Societies in the Counties of
RIDING OF YORKSHIRE, for 1918, arranged

a These particulars are taken from our last year's return. b These particulars are taken
this office or

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Mem- bers.	LIABILITIES.				ASSETS.			
		Share Capital.	Loans, includ- ing any Over- draft from Bank.	Re- serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Buildings, Machin- ery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
No 1.—NORTH NORTHUM- BERLAND DISTRICT—									
Retail Distrib. Societies—									
Amble	1957	34376	185	1098	14218	6518	442	16083	600
Ashington Equitable	1122	12703	5795	1636	11300	2989	509	7623	29
Industrial	6069	156391	1674	9043	48215	26022	17966	87841	2390
Bebside	654	10749	541	416	5276	571	165	5941	381
Bedlington	2510	39652	24737	1690	22236	18586	6381	18081	4097
Blyth—Central Industrial	2503	51424	..	2771	22077	9001	..	25071	872
Clive Industrial	406	2503	705	40	2367	2057	..	597	462
Broomhill	1200	28106	2019	1398	11600	4104	606	17725	110
Cambois	633	18435	785	222	5494	2486	3752	8597	485
Choppington	544	4122	..	352	2050	1030	..	1580	263
Felton	132	832	93	114	1215	405	..	144	..
Guide Post	880	17048	537	799	8607	2371	322	7115	605
Hedgeley	882	13354	1335	631	11951	506	160	2886	628
Howick	500	8569	..	749	1840	254	..	8888	9
Newbiggin-by-the-Sea ..	2198	55459	7573	2024	17956	12752	16448	18972	1255
New Delaval	1036	23616	30	386	6868	1341	6970	9135	1250
Otterburn	193	1662	420	80	1082	697	..	512	350
Pegswood	786	16769	4665	1673	7921	2972	311	13398	177
Radcliffe	420	9147	..	406	4164	392	..	5447	260
Sea Houses & N. S'land ..	288	3346	1	..	1296	847	..	1257	122
Togston Ter. & Bro'mh'l ..	176	3219	..	151	2570	151	..	709	58
Tweedside	2814	27345	1740	3100	13280	5649	690	13887	2985
Widdington	405	2795	6176	697	3509	56	..	6718	58
District Total for 1918	28308	541622	59011	29476	227092	101757	55722	278267	17446
Totals, previous year (1917)	27568	470929	52605	24983	156860	106801	60016	252755	19316
No. 2.—SOUTH NORTHUM- BERLAND DISTRICT—									
Retail Distrib. Societies—									
Backworth	1027	31330	1532	1299	12429	4655	5930	12591	210
Coxlodge and Fawdon ..	716	13913	1178	750	7367	2958	859	6952	664
Cramlington	5263	120180	61904	6528	48339	17129	8193	129985	2564
Newcastle-upon-Tyne ..	38965	626486	144663	31009	182731	144558	107581	475004	17876
North Shields	6000	22394	36968	563	21345	27519	640	10189	2830
St. Anthony's	834	8731	..	628	5185	364	..	4633	..
Seaton Delaval	2169	79207	2511	1802	29449	11222	7937	34913	6368
Seghill	452	10506	541	280	2706	520	..	9009	334
Shiremoor	1109	24006	956	893	6929	4233	2207	14158	552
Walker-on-Tyne	2426	25282	2753	2809	10381	4791	4339	14267	..
Wallend	7608	125857	13496	10095	41960	21471	47393	55323	387
Willington Q. & Howden	2368	27179	7535	1391	17359	12431	3341	6794	1261
Retail Socs. Total for 1918	68937	1115071	274037	58047	381180	251851	188420	773818	33046

SECTION.

NORTHUMBERLAND, CUMBERLAND, DURHAM, WESTMORLAND, and the NORTH in their respective Conference Districts.

from the Registrar's Return for 1917. c These societies have not made a return either to the Registrar.

	No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.						
	Distributive.	Productive.	Distributive.	Productive.		Net Profit.	Interest on Share Capital.	Average Dividend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions		
										Educational Purposes.	Charitable Purposes.	Co-operative Union.
			£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.
1	54	23	4612	1659	99324	10021	1456	1 10½	..	..	13	10 4 6
2	39	24	3024	1889	70946	5115	571	1 3	..	..	39	4 17 11
3	220	73	19117	7398	373503	35041	7154	1 3	..	300	200	31 10 1
4	19	5	1944	318	48675	3841	445	1 4	..	..	42	3 7 6
5	76	36	7866	2768	145624	11779	1920	1 3	..	..	831	13 0 4
6	75	42	6793	1955	138185	12194	2363	1 4	..	..	65	12 16 0
7	7	..	579	..	11126	210	113	0 6	..	..	..	2 2 2
8	32	15	3288	1183	79292	9426	1222	2 4	..	..	28	6 5 0
9	19	14	2190	1002	50962	5398	851	1 8	..	..	44	3 4 9
10	15	2	1122	118	23123	1778	192	1 5	..	..	4	2 15 5
11	2	..	170	..	6306	72	35	1 0	..	..	..	0 13 6
12	26	5	2241	263	57522	3771	754	1 1	..	..	15	4 10 8
13	27	..	1461	..	64587	2864	574	1 2	..	..	10	4 6 3
14	10	..	623	..	23014	3215	387	2 9	..	..	30	2 10 10
15	70	21	5903	2082	127094	10588	2451	1 2	..	..	51	11 0 10
16	32	11	2709	805	66930	5372	1104	1 3½	..	..	23	5 8 2
17	5	..	325	..	9667	611	73	1 7	..	..	4	1 0 10
18	25	8	2150	498	66960	5568	767	1 4	..	14	23	4 1 8
19	16	1	1303	60	30642	3228	394	1 6	..	..	37	2 3 8
20	5	..	424	..	11296	332	150	0 7½	..	..	1	1 10 0
21	6	..	454	..	10614	837	144	1 4	..	..	4	0 18 8
22	48	25	3788	1943	105193	6233	975	1 3	..	..	48	14 16 3
23	11	1	940	26	25510	2135	142	1 8	..	..	..	2 10 9
	839	306	73026	23967	1646095	139629	24237	..	..	314	1512	145 15 9
	801	298	56628	22408	1460870	140572	21802	..	..	313	1234	135 16 2
1	34	9	3500	391	83635	9191	1330	1 9	..	..	83	4 14 8
2	21	..	2602	..	58556	5568	615	1 9	..	..	31	3 14 4
3	139	57	16320	5890	380995	43987	5069	2 0½	..	10	95	26 4 3
4	1181	218	102002	18885	1945236	198457	27590	1 8	..	78	745	215 14 4
5	124	19	9357	1770	193030	11999	970	1 1½	..	91	69	31 11 4
6	22	..	1970	..	41409	3349	406	1 5	..	..	21	4 9 1
7	80	37	8462	2176	168161	17368	3733	1 7½	..	..	60	11 2 5
8	14	..	1242	..	34805	4036	479	2 0	..	..	21	2 3 1
9	24	6	2800	858	81704	9863	1157	2 2	..	..	50	5 16 8
10	64	9	4895	233	119885	10916	921	1 7	..	..	38	12 12 5
11	183	52	14860	4851	345252	34950	5501	1 7½	..	340	917	38 6 8
12	82	11	4802	1097	135160	13352	1175	1 8	..	40	105	11 7 10
	1968	418	172812	36121	3587828	363036	49546	..	..	559	2235	367 17 1

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Members.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.					
		Share Capital.	Loans, including any Over-draft from Bank.	Re-serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Buildings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.	
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
SOUTH NORTHUMBERLAND DIST.—Con.										
Productive Societies:—										
Co-operative Laundries—										
Newcastle-on-Tyne ...	59	20835	34613	3104	3354	18796	..	35422	2367	13
Newcastle-on-T.—Household Furnishing	120	6363	26043	978	5298	30029	..	478	3727	14
Produc. Socs. Total for 1918	179	27198	60656	4082	8652	48825	..	35900	6094	
District Total for 1918	69116	1142269	334693	62129	389832	300676	188420	809718	39140	
Retail Societies Total for previous year (1917)	70589	1003778	226393	37195	247154	261773	197288	693726	30474	
Productive Societies Total for previous year (1917)	179	23427	61819	3572	6971	50646	..	32718	5123	
District Total for previous year (1917)	70768	1027205	288212	40767	254125	312419	197288	726444	35570	
No. 3—CUMBERLAND AND WESTMORLAND DIST.—										
Retail Distrib. Societies—										
Aspatia	2309	27589	197	2140	15500	5929	3097	8734	875	1
Broughton Moor	168	1134	638	150	929	450	..	916	123	2
Carlisle	11448	185202	1157	13800	86475	62132	1930	48383	11511	3
Cleator Moor	7519	128952	249	9675	49079	18571	1533	65291	15946	4
Dalston	449	5778	33	234	2400	610	754	2578	276	5
Egremont	1842	54983	45	1243	14873	7248	5086	28100	3852	6
Houghton	89	878	525	64	351	760	100	236	149	7
Keswick	740	10154	243	871	3400	1457	2390	4281	801	8
Lazonby	530	7654	..	559	2289	650	328	4864	777	9
Longtown	534	5355	84	578	2536	278	1878	1940	12	10
Maryport	5084	42765	24502	5993	30261	8831	10036	33709	1209	11
Naworth Collieries	495	3439	930	52	2645	1028	932	514	803	12
Penrith	1824	25717	1119	1430	10283	6511	2220	10344	3368	13
Tebay	263	2065	..	58	1884	614	107	726	61	14
Upperby	112	504	..	115	368	2	..	535	60	15
Warwick Bridge	149	2030	..	271	927	355	..	1653	353	16
Wigton	437	5477	16	292	1320	690	..	2627	..	17
Workington Beehive ..	3626	42382	2422	2006	21534	10532	2386	22875	2187	18
„ Industrial	3023	47235	..	3041	20921	14469	3202	20785	1799	19
District Total for 1918	40641	577293	32160	42572	267975	141117	35779	259091	44142	
Totals, previous year (1917)	39948	534310	26522	30309	185180	143825	37745	259372	49411	
No. 4—WEST DURHAM AND SOUTH N'THUMBERLAND DIST.—										
Retail Distrib. Societies—										
Allendale	691	6967	..	870	3421	735	415	3377	853	1
Alston	377	1109	..	127	416	285	..	804	20	2
Annfield Plain	9184	237335	6167	11583	78646	26262	31546	130862	12084	3
Blaydon	14698	328564	14457	9997	48398	40351	93042	209196	2713	4
Burnopfield	2174	69821	5210	2090	15686	11164	15606	37962	1559	5
Coanwood	276	2630	250	300	1363	377	..	882	785	6
Consett	3333	78136	2122	3171	23447	11778	16179	33626	1624	7
Esh	784	19225	..	412	6260	4684	1572	8813	1916	8
Fourstones & Newbrough	466	4239	..	284	2183	75	619	2508	319	9
Greenhead	330	3513	333	343	3382	375	..	1003	301	10
Haltwhistle	1146	29334	242	767	11234	3800	1353	14798	2752	11
Haydon Bridge	405	6204	..	100	3108	809	1137	2183	34	12

No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.			Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.						
Distributive.	Productive.		Distributive.	Productive.		Net Profit.	Interest on Share Capital	Average Dividend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.		
			£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.
13	..	216	....	11333	32462	2128	891	0 9	..	..	5	0 15 0
14	..	65	....	5718	18634	260	..	..	..	..	..	1 0 0
	..	281	....	17051	51096	2388	891	..	..	..	5	1 15 0
	1968	699	172812	53172	3638924	365424	50437	..	..	559	2240	369 12 1
	1878	454	132125	29902	3018990	334174	46701	..	..	521	1511	327 10 10
	...	280	....	15196	44364	2727	849	..	..	..	7	1 15 0
	1878	734	132125	45098	3063354	336901	47550	..	..	521	1518	329 5 10
1	41	17	3429	1337	87870	9074	1209	1 7	..	90	60	11 18 5
2	2	..	285	..	9023	665	52	1 4	..	..	5	0 14 8
3	352	86	27160	8273	490286	57568	6468	2 0	..	148	230	60 2 8
4	161	42	16632	4332	337481	39872	5116	2 0	..	175	..	38 7 1
5	6	..	457	..	13445	1147	269	2 6	..	..	6	2 6 10
6	46	25	4551	1635	95171	9811	2152	1 7 1/2	..	21	46	9 4 0
7	2	..	209	..	4601	337	37	2 0	23	..	2	0 10 0
8	17	3	828	65	21656	2451	366	2 0	..	..	6	3 17 6
9	10	..	883	..	24275	1434	367	2 0	..	..	4	2 15 0
10	6	..	656	..	18361	1649	246	1 4	..	..	4	2 16 2
11	105	54	8394	3620	177236	19552	1943	1 9	..	173	123	26 9 2
12	11	3	810	122	21370	1177	164	1 4	..	..	1	2 9 3
13	36	5	2466	334	64300	5849	977	1 7 1/2	..	45	31	9 3 2
14	6	..	470	..	10244	709	98	..	..	..	..	1 6 5
15	1	..	191	..	7120	761	15	2 5 1/2	..	..	3	....
16	4	..	292	..	9650	683	80	2 2	..	..	..	....
17	8	..	555	..	18624	1717	146	1 11 1/4	..	..	11	2 4 6
18	76	23	5217	1571	137818	17784	2102	2 1	..	75	62	14 13 0
19	73	33	5859	2118	127593	14506	1826	1 10 1/2	..	142	68	15 0 0
	963	291	79344	23407	1676134	186746	23633	..	23	869	662	203 17 10
	978	298	69060	20053	1634074	171681	22447	..	21	740	673	192 1 11
1	14	..	879	..	25467	1034	266	1 0	..	..	27	3 11 11
2	4	..	202	..	4483	345	48	2 0	..	..	..	1 19 2
3	265	45	29687	4727	661369	94385	11089	2 9 1/2	..	200	..	40 0 0
4	307	73	25750	6460	627228	84290	12067	2 0	..	1200	..	76 3 0
5	67	15	7473	1882	173457	18280	3150	1 7 1/2	..	190	47	....
6	4	..	370	..	10947	1147	138	2 6	..	..	..	1 13 4
7	89	19	7001	1263	143398	11980	3316	1 0	..	180	96	16 16 5
8	21	4	2066	166	55081	6043	886	2 1	..	..	14	4 0 2
9	7	..	553	..	15389	1546	169	1 10	..	..	..	2 7 1
10	8	..	717	..	16203	1189	179	2 3	..	..	4	1 17 2
11	23	14	1996	1192	62326	7708	1268	2 1 1/2	..	2	21	5 18 9
12	7	3	512	138	18912	1776	281	1 8	..	..	3	2 0 5

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Mem- bers.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, includ- ing any Over- draft from Bank.	Re- serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Bldings, Machin- ery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
WEST DURHAM AND SOUTH NORTHUMBERLAND DISTRICT—Con.									
Leadgate	2864	50156	..	5223	22480	8816	4668	19883	6445 13
Nenthead	118	509	..	118	570	..	..	322	218 14
Swalwell	1185	20684	6892	593	7261	3661	2436	18488	995 15
Tantobie	683	26596	1086	630	5572	4112	6274	13464	437 16
Throckley	2245	52341	26692	3679	21096	8929	10124	46314	1044 17
West Stanley	4784	144287	9659	5966	41811	40142	12702	71936	1491 18
West Wylam & Prudhoe.	5115	125839	5863	9271	40073	17286	22988	64106	4362 19
Whitfield	152	1941	..	270	1250	120	..	1268	5 20
Retail Socs. Total for 1918	51010	1209430	78973	55794	337657	183711	220661	681795	39957
Productive Societies—									
Co-operative Bakeries ..	h5	1711	4771	1100	1038	2836	..	1823	2309 21
Derwent Flour Mill	h10	18777	25509	..	19749	10322	..	15644	127 22
Produc. Socs. Total for 1918	15	20488	30280	1100	20787	13158	..	17467	2436
District Total for 1918	51025	1229918	109253	56894	358444	196869	220661	699262	42393
Retail Societies Total for previous year (1917)	50227	1096458	65758	44609	213347	194140	238556	641454	41572
Productive Societies Total for previous year (1917)	h15	19988	30917	500	12965	16529	..	20944	3415
District Total for previous year (1917)	50242	1116446	96675	45109	226312	210660	238556	662398	44987
No. 5—EAST DURHAM DISTRICT—									
Retail Distrib. Societies—									
Birtley	6174	108964	17424	6066	59332	36093	17093	24729	9656 1
Boldon	4304	82916	4502	2591	34557	14832	5355	43576	1066 2
Chester-le-Street	5727	178789	9297	8824	51335	28933	20753	92117	18270 3
Craghead and Holmside..	648	17802	..	1094	6735	10072	..	4982	305 4
Felling Industrial	1877	26006	1720	1434	10473	3352	..	17732	1241 5
Felling Shore, Hewth, &c	973	16697	..	1144	8899	1997	..	9739	201 6
Gateshead	16564	237148	5351	10888	80282	43922	50132	115915	7 7
Haswell	3440	54951	17497	5858	39425	23482	366	17839	3678 8
Hebburn Colliery	483	2722	187	467	2293	843	..	654	232 9
Jarrow and Hebburn ..	9521	187734	15737	29778	78015	35442	31920	111656	11447 10
Marsden	374	6545	358	536	3203	1799	742	2240	273 11
Murton Colliery	2268	50541	3304	3896	19488	1833	4096	36247	1095 12
Pelton Fell	669	14975	432	341	7047	1642	1263	7170	639 13
Ryhope and Silksworth..	11975	159825	..	11757	85119	40274	..	94669	920 14
Seaham Harbour	3940	53796	7498	2136	37061	17712	1823	17552	1420 15
South Hetton Amicable..	330	3808	506	198	3138	1639	..	562	157 16
South Shields	5559	63247	10653	3141	41505	20309	1156	14636	5323 17
Sunderland	20204	102883	83239	9644	57789	65166	75165	18371	2906 18
Tyne Dock	2176	27362	2700	1361	9694	9411	3471	8819	1977 19
West Pelton	1757	50260	651	1427	19008	14287	5801	16965	962 20
Windy Nook	1757	38074	3033	2455	13340	8807	6136	15396	1485 21
District Total for 1918	100725	1483045	184080	105036	668638	381808	225272	671566	63253
Totals, previous year (1917)	99555	1337865	198738	77876	489062	390402	232388	641493	70245
No. 6—SOUTH DURHAM DISTRICT—									
Retail Distrib. Societies—									
Bearpark	257	2484	748	248	2137	553	..	1092	79 1
Bishop Auckland	29025	468627	..	27037	157774	72680	129659	178024	14230 2
Brandon and Bysottles..	1627	48609	2228	3297	15501	9747	4632	25666	5600 3
Cornforth and Coxhoe ..	2434	63142	5723	1666	25373	12837	6652	28954	1096 4
Crook	5721	193443	748	1571	43176	15179	18650	126019	21180 5

	No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.						
	Distributive.	Productive.	Distributive.	Productive.		Net Profit.	Interest on Share Capital	Average Dividend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.		
										Educational Purposes.	Charitable Purposes.	Co-operative Union.
			£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.
13	77	13	6950	1210	182218	22803	2455	2 3	..	..	41	14 5 11
14	8		220	—	5442	301	22	1 3	..	..	2	0 12 6
15	35	11	3131	895	79585	9320	1011	2 0	..	40	125	6 1 6
16	19	3	2624	162	53924	4650	1260	1 0	..	45	25	3 8 10
17	70	19	6227	2079	161084	18834	2209	1 7½	..	201	76	11 8 5
18	164	35	11290	1748	341176	34331	6679	1 0	..	203	71	24 14 10
19	134	47	10963	4029	311514	43465	5115	2 4½	..	881	70	25 16 9
20	5	1	274	86	9671	683	87	3 0	..	..	3	0 15 9
	1323	302	119485	26037	2958804	364110	51695	..	..	3142	625	243 11 11
21	..	21	....	1839	20460	130	86	0 9	..	..	..	1 1 0
22	..	50	....	6878	252719	2378	939	0 2	..	..	16	2 2 0
	..	71	....	8717	273179	2508	1025	..	..	..	16	3 3 0
	1323	373	119485	34754	3231983	366618	52720	..	..	3142	641	246 14 11
	1339	308	99180	21454	2738304	366032	48402	..	..	2171	2591	241 17 9
	..	64	....	5711	242465	4730	1000	..	..	..	8	3 3 0
	1339	372	99180	27165	2980769	370762	49402	..	..	2171	2599	245 0 9
1	204	94	19239	6968	384892	45240	4191	2 6	..	115	168	30 4 2
2	96	4	9935	270	260491	36383	3779	2 4	..	49	85	22 4 6
3	205	65	20322	4606	432841	50428	7100	1 11½	..	189	446	29 13 5
4	23	8	2233	404	66768	9146	815	2 6	..	5	10	3 6 0
5	47	3	2958	68	88864	11127	1184	2 2	..	..	24	9 19 9
6	31	2	2624	67	65832	7429	768	2 3	..	..	35	4 19 2
7	460	65	37940	7045	775543	77426	10970	1 8½	..	..	330	86 19 2
8	112	32	10433	2099	200330	19582	2531	1 6½	..	..	59	17 14 9
9	11	..	867	..	26253	2783	115	2 0	..	..	2	2 9 10
10	244	73	18902	7443	557175	94601	8427	2 9	..	684	142	46 17 6
11	9	3	972	238	28214	2853	278	..	..	..	8	1 16 10
12	87	6	6951	359	164350	19788	2287	2 0	..	9	34	11 9 9
13	24	7	2760	501	71427	7811	684	2 0½	..	..	48	3 9 4
14	297	102	22852	9731	668724	96815	8159	2 8	..	35	1440	62 19 1
15	113	18	9019	2127	206289	26328	2530	2 2	..	3	82	20 0 1
16	9	1	687	50	22401	2273	157	2 0	..	..	10	1 14 7
17	177	14	13086	948	278329	23983	2802	1 6	..	..	112	29 19 4
18	438	117	31577	9676	585230	34461	4353	1 0	..	867	170	107 17 0
19	60	6	3761	216	85962	10069	1337	1 7	..	..	59	11 1 3
20	66	13	6791	1119	124468	14185	2379	1 11½	..	12	76	8 15 9
21	65	2	4746	212	126248	14153	1619	2 0	..	..	51	9 7 6
	2778	635	226685	54147	5221131	606814	66455	..	..	1968	3391	522 18 9
	2769	599	183347	45623	4782734	625232	62948	..	7	1576	2798	489 9 9
1	7	2	662	51	18293	1451	107	1 6	..	..	13	1 5 9
2	485	127	40481	10906	943980	102540	23200	1 9	..	..	211	103 11 4
3	51	28	5721	2459	162221	23280	2247	2 6	..	..	86	10 1 6
4	72	18	6626	2308	157163	19407	2882	2 0½	..	..	57	12 8 0
5	142	50	12160	5450	404236	52969	7202	1 1½	..	23	61	32 11 0

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Members.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, including any Overdraft from Bank.	Reserve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Bldings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments. House Property.	All other Investments.	Owing to the Society for Goods.
SOUTH DURHAM DISTRICT—Con.		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Durham	2131	39796	6783	777	9550	9454	28511	4380	431
Easington Lane	801	14665	950	437	7155	2607	1801	4814	1091
Hetton Downs	246	980	1300	..	480	1540	..	471	302
Framwellgate Moor	2465	53008	1273	2156	18820	10497	4539	26464	1045
Low Moorsley	494	9950	457	424	3670	606	668	6974	201
Newbottle	2669	59240	1864	34393	13918	1292	15078	3741	11
New Brancepeth	1185	24439	8013	487	11766	3728	2195	16845	733
Pittington	1534	36854	484	2435	14635	4725	3419	19747	1759
Sherburn Hill	4285	87725	..	4894	46148	15711	..	37690	3357
Stanhope and Weardale .	1820	46029	1471	1389	27455	8105	3368	13814	1477
Station Town	1736	36110	2272	1919	15537	6820	1982	19314	523
Tow Law	1552	40763	1971	1000	11688	2755	3691	27750	1962
Tudhoe Colliery	2007	22283	..	1919	11645	4036	..	12813	37
West Cornforth	2142	28840	1705	895	12862	7432	..	15567	1264
Willington	2271	62905	7974	1643	18644	5240	6982	46457	2422
District Total for 1918	57402	1339892	44100	56058	488319	208170	218041	627033	62530
Totals, previous year (1917)	57672	1248300	32473	52015	346746	202667	235948	631531	64788
No. 7.—SOUTH DURHAM & NORTH RIDING OF YORKSHIRE DIST.—									
Retail Distrib. Societies—									
Barnard Castle	1093	9086	946	948	4640	3220	100	3152	1028
Castle Howard	389	4090	..	200	2360	..	..	1902	693
Darlington	15126	132226	3284	7165	93466	29878	12805	24876	..
East Cleveland	4453	62560	5271	6117	31629	17603	6078	25706	2893
Grismont	402	3359	18	161	1024	168	162	2731	..
Guisborough	1841	43691	2185	751	11981	3991	8832	23571	1335
Hartlepoons	12181	93932	59508	22205	72921	99851	15859	10813	6778
Kirkby Stephen	452	4664	..	119	2344	1186	..	1148	536
Malton and Norton	933	8474	1409	500	4453	2552	..	4388	373
Marske-by-the-Sea	411	5969	1216	303	3671	537	137	3460	254
Middlesbrough	27070	258684	13047	30358	174370	103789	16171	37950	691
Northallerton	952	6538	128	604	4704	602	..	2129	287
Pickering	590	3750	1086	225	3364	1414	..	802	42
Skelton	1920	16012	408	1722	12550	2581	1049	3987	616
Stockton-on-Tees	20860	229291	13037	16027	121965	79877	42435	69510	362
Teesdale Workmen's	1323	34038	..	1763	8956	2873	1688	24021	1134
Thirsk	510	4165	1072	270	2233	2268	94	1081	368
Whitby	1310	8175	1314	520	4832	1906	604	2917	342
Retail Socs. Total for 1918	91816	928504	104829	89958	561463	354356	106014	244144	17732
Productive Societies :—									
aBrandsby Agricul. Trad'g	352	5068	821	826	2657	1779	..	1914	3659
Northallerton Corn Mill.	473	1709	..	..	382	2794	..	1013	988
Produc. Socs. Total for 1918	825	6777	821	826	3039	4573	..	2927	4647
District Total for 1918	92641	935281	105650	90784	564502	358929	106014	247071	22379
Retail Societies Total for previous year (1917)	90017	814199	93129	65473	385165	334901	122488	251853	20564
Productive Societies Total for previous year (1917)	830	6777	845	826	2880	4583	..	1931	5518
District Total for previous year (1917)	90847	820976	93974	66299	388045	339484	122488	253784	26082

No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.			Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.								
						Net Profit.	Interest on Share Capital	Average Dividend per £.	Bonns on Wages.	Subscriptions.				
Distributive.	Pro-ductive.	Distributive.	Pro-ductive.	£	£					£	£	s. d.	£	£
6	40	11	3238	801	68285	5833	1959	1 0	..	85	49	11 10	1	
7	24	4	2233	464	47615	5535	616	2 2	..	..	27	4 2	2	
8	3	..	255	..	3367	211	30	..	..	..	..	1 4	6	
9	91	14	7063	1717	166359	20119	2356	2 23	..	..	313	12 14	6	
10	11	3	935	325	29792	4025	419	2 71	..	..	4	2 2	11	
11	106	20	9408	2390	196501	25206	2670	2 3	..	..	33	13 8	2	
12	46	12	3284	963	85880	9654	1123	2 2	..	..	29	6 2	11	
13	55	10	5275	856	118148	16725	1639	2 7	..	..	67	8 5	6	
14	119	29	11893	2706	314262	37741	4101	2 1	..	..	55	22 18	4	
15	44	..	3650	..	89501	5987	1691	0 10	..	..	22	9 11	5	
16	64	5	5352	571	119567	13344	1618	1 11	..	..	15	8 15	10	
17	42	16	3597	1368	74539	7990	1805	1 8	..	..	43	8 0	6	
18	54	3	5083	290	118661	11617	1044	1 81	..	..	54	10 14	6	
19	61	6	6394	367	141334	12949	1391	1 11	..	..	81	10 19	6	
20	61	22	4384	1492	121217	14494	2870	2 0	..	11	49	11 14	10	
1578			380	137694	35484	3380871	391077	60970	..	..	119	1219	302 3	3
1506			391	106919	31945	3092059	398436	57727	..	..	108	965	290 12	5
1	15	..	1124	..	29912	2424	443	1 9	..	..	22	5 13	3	
2	10	..	593	..	16269	997	184	1 7	..	8	..	2 1	8	
3	299	47	24518	4421	441061	41982	5565	1 6	..	566	262	78 11	6	
4	115	22	9910	2104	220685	22723	2381	1 9	..	116	569	22 16	9	
5	5	1	383	85	12623	1075	157	1 8	..	..	16	2 1	10	
6	48	4	3794	835	94297	10676	1695	2 0	..	3	30	9 7	6	
7	329	113	31666	9796	559957	55724	4055	1 9	..	..	175	63 4	11	
8	7	..	620	..	16440	777	202	1 1	..	..	2	2 8	2	
9	21	1	1421	122	25504	2960	360	1 8	..	21	15	4 17	5	
10	10	2	890	46	22468	2221	255	1 81	..	..	8	2 1	0	
11	582	145	51261	12973	994090	111478	9009	2 0	..	402	388	135 8	3	
12	14	..	1101	..	22447	1702	303	1 2	..	..	21	5 2	0	
13	9	..	558	..	13924	553	172	0 8	..	..	4	3 0	11	
14	34	20	2992	1710	67790	6226	541	1 10	..	23	16	10 0	0	
15	515	140	35701	14333	823043	89213	10503	2 0	..	374	..	107 16	6	
16	27	9	2722	703	55521	4965	1274	2 1	..	22	25	6 19	8	
17	10	..	559	..	15136	991	188	1 11	..	9	4	2 12	1	
18	20	2	1214	121	28725	2470	280	1 71	..	10	22	6 15	4	
2070			506	171027	47249	3459892	359157	37567	..	..	1554	1579	470 18	9
19	..	20	..	1714	75941	1416	238	1 0	..	..	27	1 16	8	
20	4	2	295	155	8341	158	..	..	..	..	..	....
4			22	295	1869	84282	1574	238	..	..	27	1 16	8	
2074			528	171322	49118	3544174	360731	37805	..	..	1554	1606	472 15	5
2212			484	139438	37347	3025022	322377	32263	..	108	1254	1271	434 12	3
4			22	310	1850	87252	1525	238	..	..	27	1 11	11	
2216			506	139748	39197	3112274	323902	2501	..	108	1254	1298	436 4	2

SUMMARY OF THE

NAME OF DISTRICT.	No. of Societies.	No. of Members.	LIABILITIES.				ASSETS.				
			Share Capital.	Loans, including any Over-draft from Bank.	Reserve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Buildings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.	House Prop.erty.	All other Investments.	Owing to the Society for Goods.
No. 1—NORTH NORTHUMBERLAND	23	28308	£ 541622	£ 59011	£ 29476	£ 227092	£ 101757	£ 55722	£ 278267	£ 17446	1
" 2—SOUTH NORTHUMBERLAND	14	69116	1142269	334693	62129	389832	300676	188420	809718	39140	2
" 3—CUMBERLAND AND WESTMORLAND ..	19	40641	577293	32160	42572	267975	141117	35779	259091	44142	3
" 4—WEST DURHAM AND SOUTH NORTHUMBERLAND	22	51025	1220918	109253	56894	358444	196865	220661	639262	42393	4
" 5—EAST DURHAM	21	100720	1483045	184089	105036	668638	381808	225272	671566	63253	5
" 6—SOUTH DURHAM....	20	57402	1339892	44100	56058	488919	208170	218041	627933	62530	6
" 7—SOUTH DURHAM AND NORTH RIDING OF YORKSHIRE	20	92641	935281	105650	90784	564502	358929	106014	247071	22379	7
Totals, 1918.....	139	439853	7249320	868956	442949	2964802	1689326	1049909	3592908	291283	
Totals, 1917.....	189	436600	6556031	789199	337358	2046330	1715327	1124429	3427777	310399	
Increase .....	..	3253	693289	79757	105591	918472	..	..	165131	..	
Decrease .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	26001	74520	..	19116	

Summary showing Members, Capital, Trade, &c.,

Retail Distrib. Societies ..	133	438834	£ 7194857	£ 777199	£ 436941	£ 2932324	£ 1622770	£ 1049909	£ 3536614	£ 278106	
Productive Societies	6	1019	54463	91757	6008	32478	66556	..	56294	13177	
Total for Section (1918) ..	139	439853	7249320	868956	442949	2964802	1689326	1049909	3592908	291283	

Summary showing Members, Capital, Trade, &c., of
given for purposes of comparison. See also Introduction to

Retail Distrib. Socs. (1917)	133	435576	£ 6505839	£ 695618	£ 332460	£ 2023514	£ 1643569	£ 1124429	£ 3372184	£ 296343	
Productive Societies ..	6	1024	50192	93581	4898	22816	71758	..	55593	14056	
Total for Section (1917) ..	139	436600	6556031	789199	337358	2046330	1715327	1124429	3427777	310399	

NORTHERN SECTION.

	No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.					
	Distributive.	Productive.	Distributive.	Productive.		Net Profit.	Interest on Share Capital.	Am't Paid as Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.		
			£	£	£	£	£	£	Educational Purposes.	Charitable Purposes.	Co-operative Union.
1	839	306	73026	23967	1646095	189629	24237	..	314	1512	145 15 9
2	1968	699	172812	53172	3638924	865424	50437	..	559	2240	369 12 1
3	963	291	79344	23407	1676194	186746	23633	23	869	662	203 17 10
4	1323	373	119485	34754	3231983	366618	52720	..	3142	641	246 14 11
5	2778	635	228685	54147	5221131	606814	66455	..	1968	3391	522 18 9
6	1578	380	137694	35484	3380871	391077	60970	..	119	1219	302 3 3
7	2074	523	171322	49118	3544174	360731	37805	..	1554	1606	472 15 5
	11523	3212	982368	274049	22339312	2417039	316257	23	8525	11271	2263 18 0
	11487	3198	787007	231489	20126134	2367486	294377	136	6683	11076	2118 11 0
	30	14	195361	42560	2213178	49553	21880	..	1842	195	145 7 0
	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	113	..	..	....

of various classes of Societies for Year 1918.

		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£ s. d.
11519	2838	982073	246412	21930755	2410569	314103	23	8525	11223	2257	3 4
4	874	295	27637	408557	6470	2154	..	..	48	6	14 8
11523	3212	982368	274049	22339312	2417039	316257	23	8525	11271	2263	18 0

various classes of Societies for previous Year (1917),

Statistics for tables showing increases of membership, &c.

		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£ s. d.
11483	2832	786697	208732	19752053	2358604	292220	186	6683	11034	2112	1 1
4	366	810	22757	374081	8982	2087	..	..	42	6	9 11
11487	3198	787007	231489	20126134	2367486	294377	136	6683	11076	2118	11 0

NORTH-WESTERN

RETURN OF TRADE, &c., of Co-operative Societies in the Counties of
WESTMORLAND, YORK (EAST AND WEST RIDINGS), and ISLE OF

a These particulars are taken from our last year's return. b These particulars are taken
this office or to

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Mem- bers.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, Includ- ing any Over- draft from Bank.	Re- serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Buildings, Machin- ery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.	Owing to the Society for Goods.	
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
No. 1.—AIREDALE DIST.—									
Retail Distrib. Societies—									
Addingham	280	5243	8	200	2708	1169	1031	569	232
Allerton	507	7987	931	636	3309	2121	1991	3776	50
Bingley	3667	91565	13787	5914	18070	24579	33148	39581	1372
Birkenshaw	3723	57957	2736	1582	27187	9398	11442	18885	245
Bradford (City of)	23102	416018	31305	10889	176698	189285	75490	103852	2406
aBradley Coal	50	56	..	45	117	12	..	32	19
Buttershaw	398	8595	158	205	3158	1196	765	6027	93
Carleton	178	1572	188	267	1080	407	..	694	33
Clayton	819	14316	1023	183	5099	2892	805	9224	334
Cononley	466	2539	10	301	1740	651	..	1583	..
Cowling	280	4636	1301	385	2313	1122	200	3288	213
„ and District Coal	260	123	15	226	71	66	..	393	127
Crosshills	512	5655	60	173	1506	1094	..	4554	46
Denholme	663	13927	4760	990	3982	1943	156	15281	176
Eccleshill	701	10025	163	236	3862	3026	1340	4005	552
Gargrave	356	2590	14	448	1854	395	..	1512	152
Great Horton	7441	142709	12339	2865	44510	33083	28210	65415	1892
Greengates & Apperley B.	675	10315	698	623	4607	2236	766	6114	656
Guiseley	1351	30280	2752	1950	7954	6858	4345	18453	520
*Hainworth .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Harrogate	5993	40961	4513	1448	22033	17322	422	13306	1624
Haworth	1132	20880	4558	2068	6539	4044	..	20489	259
Ingleton	600	7364	..	376	5087	1745	787	1037	282
Ingrow	83	754	..	..	337	..	..	861	53
Keighley	11793	236893	6913	12136	45256	22720	48684	153781	832
Leeds	72153	1169303	30298	76018	641815	358073	104462	374075	1653
Lees and Cross Roads	616	13317	2180	807	4248	2744	1401	10896	239
Oxenhope	217	6273	479	387	2517	654	1129	3605	222
Queensbury	2356	58639	4950	2330	16127	14256	5573	35091	474
Rawdon	1580	29528	2183	2222	14327	5868	2332	15082	489
Ripon	909	7250	17	710	3080	1994	225	4038	..
Settle	422	3197	1660	120	1845	504	2169	587	243
Silsden	1251	34937	1762	994	10726	15514	3908	11439	708
Skipton	2366	51994	1149	2387	25092	28057	1307	7085	732
Stanbury	118	1811	..	304	569	258	..	1468	152
Stanningley Coal	1168	146	..	..	38	230	..	951	483
Steeeton	512	7945	3611	191	2560	2605	760	6875	172
Sutton Mill	578	10355	532	400	4643	1535	1654	4712	146
„ Coal	244	127	..	..	8	..	..	240	81
Thornton	807	17297	1669	1125	4183	3876	430	14906	65
dTong Park	79	465	351	82	483	18	..	565	113
Uppertown	482	8544	379	581	6134	1777	1213	2057	1428
Wibsey Slack Side	525	13136	510	642	1957	1968	1167	11522	76
Wilsden	527	14975	936	950	3096	1135	180	13289	261
Windhill	9346	157729	16498	8804	45073	23820	34755	101579	228
Retail Soes. Total for 1918	161486	2739928	157396	143200	1177598	792250	372247	1112774	20133

* No recent information available. d 1916 figures.

SECTION.

CARNARVON, CHESTER, DENBIGH, DERBY, FLINT, LANCASTER, STAFFORD, part of MAN, for 1918, arranged in their respective Conference Districts.

from the Registrar's Return for 1917. c These societies have not made a return either to the Registrar.

No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.						
					Net Profit.	Interest on Share Capital.	Average Dividend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.		
Distributive.	Productive.	Distributive.	Productive.						Educational Purposes.	Charitable Purposes.	Co-operative Union.
		£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.
1	5	2	500	162	11398	866	248	1 0	..	2	1 11 10
2	9	3	874	242	23373	2787	343	2 3	..	18	2 10 1
3	71	42	7269	3189	146110	16850	3390	1 11	162	110	18 17 6
4	71	13	7370	977	157122	17696	2541	1 10	..	65	18 4 6
5	666	196	70560	16906	878181	87896	17291	1 9	380	847	122 9 11
6	1	..	13	..	212	20	3	2 0	..	..	..
7	9	..	1045	138	21709	2752	333	2 4 1	..	..	..
8	3	..	192	..	7866	406	62	0 11	..	18	2 0 9
9	16	..	1491	499	33449	3888	529	2 0	..	10	0 17 11
10	4	..	342	..	15075	1286	126	2 0	..	19	4 5 6
11	5	..	458	..	15085	1110	162	3 0	..	5	2 8 6
12	2	..	175	..	2636	61	6	..	..	10	1 8 10
13	5	..	482	159	15231	1904	204	2 6	..	7	2 13 9
14	12	5	1314	393	29108	3578	560	2 2 1	..	25	3 7 9
15	12	1	1280	116	22638	2666	381	2 1	..	15	3 12 1
16	4	..	344	..	13028	1352	122	2 0	..	6	1 14 0
17	161	49	11906	4548	265020	30531	5564	1 11 1	..	192	38 17 4
18	13	3	1014	365	26872	3090	397	2 0	..	16	3 8 9
19	24	11	2263	977	44873	5396	1110	1 11	..	36	7 0 6
20	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
21	108	16	9787	1700	133178	9137	1783	..	93	50	31 5 0
22	21	6	1794	473	44585	5771	777	2 3	..	30	5 17 10
23	14	4	1124	118	29246	2451	329	1 9	..	10	3 1 5
24	1	..	192	..	3772	422	27	2 1	..	..	..
25	152	85	14983	6989	356150	44714	8952	2 2	393	59	60 0 0
26	1714	585	150263	60442	2802611	377888	40117	2 4	2447	10368	369 9 2
27	16	4	1220	388	33207	4397	460	2 6	..	4	2 19 3
28	3	..	253	..	10831	1273	262	2 6	..	5	1 2 0
29	45	32	3558	2619	85480	10150	2622	1 6	25	78	13 0 8
30	31	3	2695	547	59456	7160	1285	1 11 1	..	71	8 6 3
31	14	..	992	..	19395	2121	258	1 10	21	..	4 15 5
32	7	..	527	..	12035	747	134	1 4 1	..	3	..
33	22	20	2603	1959	55730	5688	1309	2 0	..	19	6 7 8
34	62	22	5870	2238	110578	11885	2399	1 9	..	47	12 6 1
35	4	..	152	..	4705	431	66	3 2 1	..	3	0 11 7
36	2	..	561	..	7543	1141	..	..	..	13	..
37	11	1	1037	144	22281	2491	300	2 5	..	5	2 12 2
38	8	..	872	..	24881	2730	368	2 6	..	7	2 19 4
39	1	..	90	..	1412	162	6	2 3	..	..	..
40	17	3	1525	405	33078	3994	745	2 1 1	..	2	..
41	1	..	188	..	3895	518	17	2 10	..	51	4 5 0
42	9	3	891	266	29844	2240	355	1 10 1	..	..	0 7 6
43	11	2	1007	156	24173	3338	528	2 6	..	9	1 19 9
44	12	..	1207	..	28748	3566	535	2 3	..	11	2 15 5
45	179	64	16210	6382	330299	40735	6338	2 0 1	200	215	2 14 0
	3558	1186	328473	113497	5996999	728153	10333	..	..	3760	12476
										821	2 10

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Members.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, including any overdraft from Bank.	Reserve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Buildings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments. House Property.	All other Investments.	Owing to the Society for Goods.
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
AIREDALE DISTRICT—Con.									
Productive Societies—									
Airedale Worsteds	497	8061	2402	2222	10177	272	..	6289	3374
Bradford Cabinet Makers	75	3191	3474	67	4560	2044	..	254	305
Keighley Laundries	17	5220	1773	80	1180	5629	..	216	363
Produc. Socs. Total for 1918	589	16472	7649	2369	15037	7945	..	6759	4042
District Total for 1918	162075	2756400	165045	145566	1198537	800195	372247	1119638	24175
Retail Societies Total for previous year (1917)	160157	2595954	129657	122581	841170	812162	417284	1201380	24356
Productive Societies Total for previous year (1917)	572	14657	8717	3404	14585	9173	..	5003	5488
District Total for previous year (1917)	160729	2610611	138374	125985	855755	821335	417384	1206383	20844
No. 2—BOLTON DISTRICT—									
Retail Distrib. Societies—									
Adlington	897	13923	1009	2410	7447	3224	2545	6356	626
Ainsworth New Road	350	3952	251	166	1820	397	..	2749	123
Industrial	427	8700	..	401	2906	764	1040	4817	..
Bolton	42250	948404	49777	46997	164065	176268	340133	373866	..
Bryn Gates (Bamfurlong)	730	14850	2985	1130	7027	3589	2345	8042	851
Chorley	3642	41636	12049	3249	18080	14251	6234	20945	161
Eagley	951	20858	3432	740	7271	3820	6780	9038	56
Earlestown	3637	44368	3705	1807	16051	13227	3268	22079	8
Edgworth	647	20667	4533	466	3906	1030	3815	17921	205
Egerton	329	6177	1660	300	1771	876	..	6260	..
Farnworth and Kearsley	9420	151192	40928	18036	58954	61527	37224	66825	411
Heapey	272	4258	..	670	683	575	2630	1377	..
Hindley	3076	33097	5837	2028	18616	11233	8763	12046	342
Hindsford	1250	20520	2206	2823	10980	5095	3253	9169	674
Horwich	3626	52832	9228	4391	20735	11440	7023	35089	352
Hulton and Chequerbent	245	6229	144	398	1607	343	1805	4040	15
Leigh	12766	195060	11602	19695	87319	79118	26046	71253	1947
Little Hulton	1175	24483	4217	1081	8076	9396	9389	5817	482
Little Lever	709	19553	4558	1941	4199	1575	827	20427	170
Park Lane	1640	35831	2393	3901	13000	6595	2857	22095	815
Platt Bridge	914	17490	1975	1260	8502	3066	1069	10429	966
Radcliffe and Pilkington	5313	109530	13040	10566	41858	19034	25741	54094	837
Skelmersdale	1546	12503	92	1114	5285	2268	578	6453	15
Tyldesley	2352	34002	7794	3035	19284	10887	5642	14454	905
Walkden	4032	95527	13865	5119	24010	15121	20601	66328	25
Westhoughton Friendly	1292	28494	2641	1592	12352	5524	6350	12054	90
United	1705	40927	3063	2839	12773	7056	4543	28315	463
Wheelton	125	1722	538	260	240	168	500	1812	..
White Coppice	16	88	..	44	69	5	..	73	3
White-le-Woods	277	4768	331	238	1279	600	464	3554	122
Wigan	8870	107324	7479	4307	49042	22088	3147	66020	2053
Withnell (Brinscall)	500	9916	3240	1350	1096	2342	6106	4209	98
Retail Socs. Total for 1918	114981	2128861	214671	139351	631203	492511	535168	989006	12262
Distrib. Federation—									
Westhoughton & District	2	2000	..	196	1661	930	..	470	..
Productive Society—									
Bolton Cabinet Makers	60	1566	1526	1528	2904	362	..	81	2201
District Total for 1918	115045	2132427	216197	141075	635768	493803	535168	989557	14483

No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.			Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.						
Distributive.	Productive.	Distributive.	Productive.	Net Profit.		Interest on Share Capital	Average Dividend per £.	Bonns on Wages.	Subscriptions.			
									Educational Purposes.	Charitable Purposes.	Co-operative Union.	
			£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.
46	6	25	2053	2087	38470	1902	394	0 6	83	..	61	4 10 0
47	1	16	104	1794	3882	83	79	..	..	..	..	0 10 0
48	..	40	..	3140	7004	538	256	..	..	..	2	0 7 6
	7	81	2157	7021	49356	2440	729	..	83	..	63	5 7 6
	3565	1267	330630	120518	6046355	730593	10406	..	83	3760	12539	826 10 4
	3592	1376	244993	106073	5725226	736027	94426	..	..	3425	2503	779 8 9
	7	89	2540	5601	52157	4963	731	..	60	..	79	5 7 6
	3590	1465	247533	111674	5777383	740990	95157	..	60	3425	2582	784 16 3
1	30	14	2401	798	46840	4260	545	1 9	..	..	24	4 12 2
2	6	..	376	..	10487	1308	180	2 6	..	..	6	1 16 0
3	5	..	639	..	13954	1633	331	2 0	..	..	8	2 3 0
4	754	272	85720	29513	1356474	162922	26335	2 0	..	2703	..	223 12 0
5	31	11	2559	794	69319	7135	656	2 0	..	62	16	4 2 0
6	70	25	6800	1958	112700	8624	1903	1 3	..	94	42	19 9 5
7	20	9	2002	804	43720	5687	803	2 1	..	40	31	4 13 9
8	64	20	5745	2097	139755	15473	1882	2 3	..	13	40	19 2 6
9	10	4	1042	393	27807	3182	740	1 9	..	..	32	3 5 0
10	6	1	695	175	19637	2340	237	2 4	..	..	5	1 12 11
11	243	57	22735	5269	377205	37674	5900	2 0	..	146	205	48 3 1
12	5	..	483	..	13210	1117	210	1 10	..	..	7	1 8 3
13	79	19	6140	1814	114673	10848	1462	2 0	..	27	33	15 16 0
14	46	3	3377	356	81263	9038	782	2 0	..	..	45	5 14 7
15	83	30	8158	2642	147998	17241	2335	1 11	..	211	762	19 5 5
16	7	2	538	162	15933	2133	305	2 6	..	..	10	1 7 0
17	372	72	37447	11276	613091	73531	7867	2 0	..	682	311	67 0 6
18	34	16	3028	1246	64435	7775	1130	2 0	..	66	32	6 0 5
19	12	3	1049	300	32662	4321	783	2 2	..	..	13	3 17 1
20	51	15	4054	1274	96907	10156	1645	2 0	..	82	19	8 6 8
21	39	6	2525	592	62590	6760	700	2 0	..	..	..	4 7 9
22	127	57	11675	4380	236723	24773	4237	1 8	..	481	81	27 18 4
23	27	2	1934	219	39087	3298	565	1 5	..	..	17	8 1 9
24	79	37	7247	2863	156552	17369	1513	2 0	..	140	96	12 0 4
25	119	53	11246	4015	198795	24571	3320	2 0	..	260	156	21 4 0
26	33	16	2420	1424	73106	9914	1215	2 3	..	..	40	6 0 0
27	53	16	4089	1479	113582	13315	1842	2 3	..	70	53	8 16 6
28	2	..	186	..	3842	774	82	4 0	..	..	12	0 13 0
29	1	..	45	..	476	31	6	1 3	..	..	..	..
30	7	..	529	..	11777	2035	223	3 5	8	..	43	1 12 3
31	254	57	21248	4261	582105	33228	4650	1 8	..	693	1167	46 1 9
32	12	..	1085	..	21561	953	468	0 7	..	10	2	2 12 1
	2681	817	259217	80104	4697726	523532	74861	..	8	5795	3308	600 15 6
33	3	11	233	702	4592	828	100	2 6	..	..	..	....
34	..	45	..	4563	9973	780	72	..	..	..	2	0 5 3
	2684	873	259450	85369	4712291	525140	75033	..	8	5795	3310	601 1 0

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Members.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, including any Over-draft from Bank.	Reserve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Bldings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments. House Prop-erty. All other Invest-ments.	Owing to the Society for Goods.	
BOLTON DISTRICT—Con.		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
<i>Retail Societies Total for previous year (1917)</i>	115475	2059748	195193	123118	482676	504611	566269	971567	16621
<i>Distrib. Federation Total for previous year (1917)</i>	2	2000	..	124	1551	990	..	281	..
<i>Productive Society Total for previous year (1917)</i>	52	1552	1609	1271	5631	377	..	160	595
<i>District Total for previous year (1917)</i>	115520	2063300	196802	124512	480858	505978	566269	972008	17216
No. 3—CALDERDALE DIST.—									
Retail Distrib. Societies—									
Barkisland	173	2035	..	419	1096	250	..	1322	101
Blackshawhead	112	1325	100	276	410	79	31	1490	9
Brighouse	9570	180703	5993	7669	70280	35058	38804	81613	190
Copley	209	1202	..	149	1044	..	..	1025	..
Cragg Vale	224	6581	562	518	1302	651	223	6140	232
Halifax Coal	1303	895	102	385	110	624	..	276	1154
" Industrial	15088	129173	20342	8164	91214	58700	15194	32557	5321
Hebden Bridge Industrial	3037	87559	8533	4454	22297	20977	10849	55262	507
Heptonstall	444	6160	161	729	2572	1187	495	3952	258
Holmfild	335	5532	964	183	2483	1131	814	3122	..
" Coal	264	319	55	15	3	255	..	185	135
Illingworth	211	2516	608	110	971	978	..	226	1497
Luddenden	448	6006	793	513	3035	959	1381	2862	468
Luddendenfoot	742	11066	4848	592	3305	2902	2230	9620	191
Midgley	476	11573	362	1026	2722	660	751	9389	355
Mytholmroyd	771	19232	914	1588	5920	1949	3232	12925	448
Peckett Well	167	2621	382	291	737	436	1338	1223	73
Ripponden	783	10791	579	645	6504	2138	1816	4139	285
Siddal	381	4901	61	108	1424	1281	845	2610	28
Sowerby Bridge Industrial	4954	92369	10808	4605	23359	21566	10065	66689	1447
Stainland & Holywell Gn.	952	26922	85	732	7727	2595	1699	17333	389
Todmorden	4785	131036	322	7424	42715	23993	64668	24460	623
" Bridge End	820	32780	15	740	4442	4900	11322	15678	95
Wainstalls	205	2840	128	378	1452	514	374	1986	236
Walsden	750	32741	..	1427	4616	5779	11122	14858	178
Retail Soc. Total for 1918	47204	808878	56718	43140	301740	189571	177253	370042	14220
Productive Society—									
Calderdale Clog Sundries									
Manufact'g (Walsden.)	149	1758	348	950	276	1052	..	2181	324
District Total for 1918	47353	810636	57066	44090	302016	190623	177253	373123	14544
<i>Retail Societies Total for previous year (1917)</i>	45444	753367	52221	39933	220863	187336	192544	354775	12318
<i>Productive Society Total for previous year (1917)</i>	1081	40256	750	20198	12786	21022	..	25907	7759
<i>District Total for previous year (1917)</i>	46525	793623	52971	60131	233649	208358	192544	380682	20077
No. 4—CHESHIRE & NORTH WALES DISTRICT—									
Retail Distrib. Societies—									
Bangor	400	2625	732	200	3014	622	..	355	350
Birkenhead	20183	189635	19136	7192	84944	68097	842	97422	738
Promborough Pool	203	1506	..	50	1611	..	..	770	..
Brymbo	555	3330	3001	1052	4708	1743	1205	327	237
Buckley	739	4079	2436	545	6079	2284	155	569	77
Carnarvon	312	959	6	504	872	18	..	874	..

No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.						
					Net Profit.	Inter- est on Share Capital	Aver- age Divi- dend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.		
Distributive.	Productive.	Distributive.	Productive.						Educa- tional Pur- poses.	Chari- table Pur- poses.	Co-operative Union.
		£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.
2739	784	215387	61217	4549633	603737	73930	..	8	6883	3863	567 6 8
4	7	199	511	3777	646	100	2 9	..	..	..	....
..	45	..	3577	8232	509	77	..	..	..	1	0 10 0
2743	836	215586	65305	4561642	604892	74107	..	8	6883	3864	567 16 8
1	2	..	192	..	9123	662	94	2 7½	..	..	0 17 4
2	1	..	99	..	3998	364	54	3 4	..	..	....
3	142	125	18839	8629	419497	55380	8027	2 2½	..	100	128 48 16 1
4	2	..	245	..	8406	1010	59	2 4	..	2	..
5	5	..	387	..	11285	1167	305	3 4	..	4	1 3 2
6	6	..	457	..	5100	782	3 4	..	..	4	..
7	250.	99	27407	8564	542369	42339	4991	1 9	..	130	163 72 18 3
8	64	32	5240	3612	158900	17569	3796	2 3½	..	342	.. 15 12 6
9	10	..	847	..	18953	2352	224	2 6	..	9	2 5 10
10	4	..	393	125	12165	1677	216	2 10½	..	4	1 15 1
11	3	..	149	..	1457	37	15	..	..	..	..
12	3	..	460	..	30232	964	68	2 6	..	6	1 2 11
13	8	..	735	..	19672	2719	291	4 0	..	4	18 2 5 11
14	12	..	987	210	27569	3758	543	2 6	..	..	16 3 17 6
15	6	1	505	122	18054	2509	541	4 0	..	..	11 2 8 11
16	16	7	1270	379	36037	4427	764	2 5½	..	75	46 4 0 4
17	3	..	137	..	6102	797	126	2 11	..	..	9 0 17 5
18	16	3	1828	347	45724	3239	517	2 6	..	..	14 4 0 2
19	3	..	295	..	10961	1695	209	3 0	..	4	6 2 0 0
20	81	39	8268	4409	216448	25226	4108	2 4½	..	..	87 25 9 3
21	11	8	1448	578	43070	4591	1248	1 9	..	..	12 4 18 9
22	113	46	8845	4159	181659	23368	5601	2 3	..	371	118 25 3 4
23	13	4	1792	408	38357	5364	1272	2 6	..	83	23 4 6 3
24	3	..	402	..	14688	1304	135	2 4	..	..	7 0 19 6
25	11	3	1509	300	34491	4381	1349	2 4½	..	81	40 3 17 10
	786	371	82646	31842	1914317	207681	34553	..	..	1190	727 228 16 4
26	..	8	..	809	3883	737	88	1 0	38	..	11 1 0 0
	786	379	82646	32651	1918200	208418	34641	..	38	1190	738 229 16 4
	799	369	68328	27039	1870919	241436	31108	..	..	1382	590 216 0 2
	..	319	..	27074	143178	9238	1824	..	1155	..	102 11 0 0
	799	688	68328	54113	2014097	250674	32932	..	1155	1382	692 227 0 2
1	8	..	585	..	12563	824	103	1 6	4	..	2 2 1 8
2	404	153	30291	14945	620652	62465	7831	1 8	646	297	115 101 5 4
3	6	..	623	..	14573	1607	67	2 2	..	5	.. 0 10 6
4	14	3	1092	336	21235	1531	127	1 3	..	15	.. 3 0 2
5	21	4	1370	175	29754	1264	189	1 0½	..	..	9 3 15 8
6	4	..	208	..	5731	597	38	1 6	..	..	13 1 19 0

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Mem- bers.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, Includ- ing any Over- draft from Bank.	Re- serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Bldings, Machin- ery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.
							House Prop- erty.	All other Invest- ments.	
CHESHIRE AND NORTH WALES DISTRICT—Con.									
Cefn	2215	£ 20192	£ 2536	£ 2881	£ 15195	£ 6836	£ 555	£ 6996	£ 473 7
Chester	5873	82740	9950	23487	44673	53184	3400	26656	228 8
Colwyn Bay	1237	14197	461	..	7066	5258	1407	941	554 9
Cynfal	119	369	398	141	698	187	..	74	150 10
Deiniolen	146	524	245	16	340	289	..	547	50 11
Dolgarrig	107	303	2102	..	1542	501	..	289	389 12
El Elff Workmen's	111	862	..	210	739	22	..	604	189 13
Ellesmere Port	1967	20834	4881	1600	14265	5843	3522	7431	486 14
Employes' Provident (Port Sunlight)	924	5899	304	624	7436	570	..	1686	140 15
Ewloe Place	184	1122	213	100	1205	236	..	311	101 16
Ffynnon Groyw	150	1568	993	331	1372	898	401	399	213 17
Flint and Oakenholt	990	9937	110	1973	7241	3642	53	2755	118 18
Garston	1657	13098	1232	969	6555	5448	371	5648	9 19
Hawarden	474	3462	1491	226	3542	2003	68	255	182 20
Holyhead	1133	3945	2521	510	4450	1506	..	1607	.. 21
Leeswood	138	962	672	273	832	827	419	145	101 22
Liverpool	46369	354317	37389	28445	213373	198037	1826	61421	.. 23
Llanberis	234	478	..	250	530	87	..	887	171 24
Llandegfan	125	324	3	61	359	25	..	72	.. 25
Llandudno Junction	482	1811	24	234	1674	374	..	304	152 26
Llanfairfechan	246	1534	..	..	1239	72	..	525	585 27
Llanrug	151	364	390	..	266	417	..	163	556 28
Mold Junction	217	1177	6	135	1261	15	..	322	7 29
New York (Penmaenm'r)	320	1189	1361	607	1699	1013	..	609	61 30
Pant-y-Fownog	132	726	..	235	714	137	268	205	60 31
Queen's Ferry	2410	21624	6706	1356	18183	6122	3347	2464	990 32
Rhyl	278	940	13	55	1014	91	..	396	116 33
Rivals	53	89	103	..	192	6	..	102	9 34
Runcorn and Widnes	10694	133401	5273	14604	79389	36824	34427	48310	.. 35
St. Helens	18221	67850	57122	36479	90999	49828	14873	44189	.. 36
Sychtyn	144	1010	346	22	1016	354	252	270	182 37
Warrington	17561	190949	956	27291	72462	48284	6849	132096	.. 38
Whiston	1122	6056	2181	795	5485	1795	1902	1325	154 39
Wrexham	2531	16113	5194	1364	16005	7598	1528	1715	557 40
District Total for 1918	141107	1182100	170487	154817	724239	511093	77760	452036	8385
District Total for previous year (1917)	139034	1000026	144568	132432	529827	523186	87482	351818	13882
No. 5—DEWSBURY DIST.—									
Retail Distrib. Societies—									
aAltofts	349	1957	..	300	1739	..	..	1717	.. 1
Batley	6940	172086	1867	6484	37124	40994	44937	67153	412 2
Battleyford (Mirfield)	394	5411	818	381	2065	1336	1609	2850	22 3
Beeston	334	4870	..	182	1742	605	1109	2247	246 4
Birstall	2332	43708	1366	2248	10561	3006	9208	28884	.. 5
Churwell	772	14027	146	734	5037	2837	4171	4416	.. 6
Cleckheaton	5706	95592	26867	9982	48259	24627	35419	33320	2594 7
Crigglestone	516	2186	926	1001	3935	915	360	590	327 8
Dewsbury	15981	354384	1863	9750	72415	75545	59800	189114	2319 9
Drighlington	1247	21633	..	320	6420	5356	2363	10125	.. 10
*Farnley .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.. 11
Gomersal	1172	19681	..	1249	8025	2770	3189	9501	80 12
Grange Moor Friendly	174	5447	..	239	1604	505	264	3954	262 13
United	115	3088	79	166	804	609	469	1796	362 14
Heckmondwike	10206	243948	6516	8829	40263	30785	35156	167345	3202 15
Horbury	2179	42321	4878	2488	20783	8475	11090	11783	2201 16
Liversedge	1269	9291	450	708	6008	2264	229	2701	73 17
Middlestown	902	17458	709	2437	8483	2772	1292	10155	2510 18
Mirfield Industrial	2123	36688	6817	2317	15818	7111	5681	22987	520 19

* No recent information available.

1918, NORTH-WESTERN SECTION.

673

No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.			Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.							
Distributive.	Productive.		Distributive.	Productive.		Net Profit.	Interest on Share Capital.	Average Dividend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.			
										Educational Purposes.	Charitable Purposes.	Co-operative Union.	
			£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s d	
7	38	11	3527	1056	93248	10170	872	2 0	..	..	59	10 15 7
8	169	30	12260	3431	218373	31512	3810	2 3 3	..	50	49	30 7 0	
9	20	4	1334	676	27249	1149	486	0 10 3	..	..	4	6 2 6
10	2	..	127	..	5913	395	15	1 4 1	49	..	2	..	
11	2	..	158	..	4629	308	20	1 6	..	..	..	0 15 0
12	10	..	722	..	8125	2191	..	..	..	..	..	..
13	2	..	125	..	5000	427	10	2 0	..	..	..	0 12 6
14	55	17	4090	1929	31443	3101	824	1 8	..	85	14	9 16 11	
15	29	7	2570	813	56201	3832	250	1 4 1	68	36	12	4 14 9	
16	4	..	350	..	10691	1111	40	2 3	..	..	1	0 19 2
17	5	1	291	79	6836	114	50	0 6	..	..	2	0 15 8
18	35	4	2500	394	43126	4573	414	1 10	..	..	19	5 2 3
19	36	14	2537	947	50325	5020	509	1 8	..	25	33	8 6 8	
20	15	3	853	332	20184	1622	138	1 7	..	..	..	2 10 10
21	18	3	1334	330	27511	2544	165	1 9	6	..	6	5 14 7	
22	3	..	307	..	7100	739	39	1 8	..	..	11	0 13 10
23	939	128	76822	15024	1283087	134658	14322	1 8 1	..	1000	589	240 11 6	
24	6	..	386	..	10104	739	24	1 7	..	..	..	1 4 5
25	1	..	89	..	1936	174	14	1 0	..	..	..	..
26	9	..	692	..	11589	190	84	1 0	..	..	3	2 7 7
27	4	..	257	..	6664	158	61	..	..	..	..	1 0 0
28	3	..	102	..	2977	121	27	..	..	..	..	1 0 0
29	9	1	586	147	9705	851	49	2 0	..	..	2	1 5 0
30	6	2	484	100	10741	43	49	0 8 1	..	..	..	..
31	3	..	252	..	7801	1032	30	2 3 1	..	..	3	0 13 9
32	50	8	5211	837	83981	4775	1020	1 0	..	20	11	11 11 4	
33	4	1	407	138	7337	91	43	0 4 1	..	..	1	1 9 2
34	1	..	17	..	1282	97	3	1 3	..	..	..	..
35	277	45	21806	6422	431484	43850	5097	1 9	..	497	150	54 6 5	
36	457	62	37390	6230	726135	76305	2347	2 2	..	77	126	92 12 3	
37	4	..	258	..	7789	515	45	1 1 1	..	..	1	0 12 6
38	291	57	25290	6107	637365	93730	7361	2 6	..	755	274	92 2 5	
39	20	4	1645	430	39601	3481	221	1 9	..	..	8	4 18 4
40	55	8	4425	932	76350	5437	690	1 3	..	65	116	13 8 0	
3030			570	243397	61810	4726390	506153	47484	..	773	2927	1644	719 2 3
3177			472	214220	47733	4254085	476676	42129	..	646	2982	899	666 10 16
1	7	..	573	..	21807	4436	67	4 0	..	..	10	1 16 6
2	123	48	12238	4506	258934	30525	7925	1 8 1	..	459	291	36 0 0	
3	6	..	601	..	14146	1372	225	1 7 1	..	..	8	2 0 0
4	7	..	566	..	14055	1647	174	2 5	..	11	2	1 11 3	
5	44	9	3873	787	84524	10353	1898	2 1 1	..	205	36	12 2 8	
6	12	7	1369	783	31893	2995	536	1 6	..	26	5	3 16 8	
7	137	39	12590	3411	254243	27580	4374	1 9 1	..	500	214	29 3 4	
8	15	2	1346	137	30132	3160	97	2 0	..	..	22	2 14 2
9	280	76	26471	7169	466013	57480	16805	1 10	..	958	249	82 19 11	
10	20	6	2002	346	49595	5541	932	1 11	..	..	35	6 10 0
11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
12	20	3	2304	287	47455	5693	914	1 11	..	..	..	5 19 10
13	2	..	354	..	11247	1389	197	2 0 1	..	1	10	0 17 9	
14	3	..	223	..	8961	1018	121	2 3	..	..	..	..
15	189	53	12688	3489	263027	36432	8530	1 10	..	589	342	52 17 0	
16	48	11	4146	1082	109575	10895	1774	1 11	..	104	56	11 0 3	
17	15	..	1568	..	34722	2954	376	1 7	..	..	28	6 9 8
18	26	8	2331	457	59694	7962	780	2 7	..	30	15	4 11 8	
19	38	19	5005	1509	99275	9634	1516	1 9	..	12	51	10 15 2	

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Members.	LIABILITIES.				ASSETS.			
		Share Capital.	Loans, including any Over-draft from Bank.	Reserve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Bldings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.
							Horse Prop.	All other Investments.	
DEWSBURY DISTRICT—Con.		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Mirfield Perseverance ...	999	13367	1129	669	5131	1474	454	10535	420
Morley	8274	223770	1552	10920	42379	24075	21517	159039	1406
Ossett	3629	54336	8070	2960	22743	13482	800	31360	244
Ravensthorpe	516	7922	1299	719	1907	1671	2812	4206	164
Upper Hopton	163	5768	733	356	1357	550	..	5591	132
Wakefield Borough	2508	21435	56	1737	10617	5437	2785	8408	936
„ Industrial	7484	63262	5451	5799	49452	34712	3632	8260	1431
Retail Socs. Total for 1918	76284	1483636	71592	72975	424671	201913	248346	798127	19688
Distrib. Federation— West Yorkshire Coal Fed- eration	45	25661	50	994	..	..	..	30856	4164
Productive Society— Dewsbury Co-op. Laundry	10	3483	2544	699	499	3319	..	3159	508
District Total for 1918	76339	1512780	74186	74668	425170	205272	248346	832142	24355
<i>Retail Societies Total for</i> <i>previous year (1917)</i>	<i>75511</i>	<i>1334797</i>	<i>60400</i>	<i>48232</i>	<i>302658</i>	<i>300603</i>	<i>254392</i>	<i>724362</i>	<i>21630</i>
<i>Distrib. Federation Total for</i> <i>previous year (1917)</i>	<i>44</i>	<i>23424</i>	<i>50</i>	<i>947</i>	<i>..</i>	<i>..</i>	<i>..</i>	<i>25539</i>	<i>6862</i>
<i>Productive Society Total for</i> <i>previous year (1917)</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>3448</i>	<i>1950</i>	<i>538</i>	<i>536</i>	<i>3765</i>	<i>..</i>	<i>1706</i>	<i>457</i>
<i>District Total for previous</i> <i>year (1917)</i>	<i>75565</i>	<i>1361669</i>	<i>62400</i>	<i>49717</i>	<i>303194</i>	<i>304368</i>	<i>254392</i>	<i>751607</i>	<i>28949</i>
No. 6—EAST YORKSHIRE DISTRICT—									
Retail Distrib. Societies—									
Beverley	915	6148	905	826	5260	1005	..	2498	341
dCastleford and Allerton ..	4816	34296	..	3403	9298	193	..	42115	..
„ Industrial	5545	45253	4505	5542	31072	17056	5933	8320	933
Driffield	490	5518	324	360	2045	1116	326	2927	409
Esrick	171	2359	..	577	1396	17	..	1981	393
Hull	28500	241609	77035	9804	145555	129151	6775	91494	6213
Kippax	1277	9896	1215	1182	8588	2594	978	3017	874
Market Weighton	870	10244	435	401	5403	1029	985	4597	228
Pocklington	950	4950	154	1000	6223	1086	..	1068	921
dRiccail	80	78	5	136	316	23	..	324	..
Scarborough	2348	17823	417	399	9113	11197	616	2201	516
Selby	886	11266	724	732	3533	1899	923	7163	397
Tadcaster	825	7138	808	826	5715	3381	773	860	284
Wetherby	662	6367	81	368	4091	1902	..	654	821
York	12020	166953	18859	11925	77542	56239	3427	89636	950
Retail Socs. Total for 1918	60265	569898	105467	37482	315150	227888	20736	258855	13330
Productive Society— Hull Printers	64	2251	2506	3267	1177	6272	..	699	983
District Total for 1918	60329	572149	107973	40749	316327	234160	20736	259554	14313
<i>Retail Societies Total for</i> <i>previous year (1917)</i>	<i>59862</i>	<i>487213</i>	<i>82388</i>	<i>29158</i>	<i>221554</i>	<i>236150</i>	<i>21024</i>	<i>206032</i>	<i>17387</i>
<i>Productive Society Total for</i> <i>previous year (1917)</i>	<i>65</i>	<i>2268</i>	<i>2506</i>	<i>2737</i>	<i>960</i>	<i>6011</i>	<i>..</i>	<i>321</i>	<i>917</i>
<i>District Total for previous</i> <i>year (1917)</i>	<i>59927</i>	<i>489481</i>	<i>84894</i>	<i>31895</i>	<i>222514</i>	<i>242161</i>	<i>21024</i>	<i>206353</i>	<i>18304</i>

	No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.						
	Distributive.	Productive.	Distributive.	Productive		Net Profit.	Interest on Share Capital.	Average Dividend per £.	Bonns on Wages.	Subscriptions.		
										Educational Purposes.	Charitable Purposes.	Co-operative Union.
			£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.	
20	15	..	1523	..	39660	4710	597	2 0 1/2	..	..	21	5 3 4
21	134	53	14588	5269	333299	39061	8743	1 6	..	..	219	41 4 0
22	50	25	5893	2118	122115	13345	2494	1 9	..	..	101	18 17 0
23	6	..	641	..	16457	1843	860	1 10	..	..	10	2 18 4
24	2	1	203	100	10351	1582	247	2 5	..	..	5	0 15 0
25	27	2	3279	208	73441	5698	1047	1 3	..	..	..	13 14 11
26	170	43	14490	2989	283498	29519	2705	1 3 1/2	..	255	14	38 13 0
	1415	405	130955	34647	2738419	316824	63454	..	..	3150	1744	392 11 5
27	1	..	130	..	70962	2485	1257	0 4	..	..	..	0 5 0
28	..	51	..	3320	6004	977	174	1 0	..	..	5	0 5 0
	1416	456	131085	37967	2815985	320286	64885	..	..	3150	1749	393 1 5
	1348	433	103359	29299	2705103	320342	53373	..	..	3613	1822	372 7 3
	1	..	109	..	78119	2317	1142	0 4	..	..	..	0 5 0
	2	41	2179	2438	5026	489	172	0 5	..	..	1	0 5 0
	1351	474	103647	31737	2788248	323148	54687	..	..	3613	1823	372 17 3
1	17	1	1395	140	24359	1734	265	1 2	..	37	4	4 1 3
2	..	..	4917	..	140714	32945	1517	..	..	..	..	..
3	121	33	9134	2538	208597	19083	1955	1 6	..	182	39	29 6 8
4	10	..	620	..	11638	936	226	1 2	..	10	7	2 2 4
5	5	..	431	..	16976	1248	107	1 6	..	..	..	0 18 0
6	667	129	47103	12127	753780	59532	11383	1 2 1/2	..	911	227	145 16 8
7	34	5	2816	385	72347	5074	63	1 3	..	52	14	6 13 9
8	21	..	1443	..	30283	2361	419	1 6	..	..	8	4 5 5
9	27	4	1834	248	44261	2472	176	2 0	..	..	20	3 13 0
10	..	..	75	..	1636	32	3	..	..	..	..	..
11	44	7	3178	595	61872	4926	704	1 5	..	83	19	11 10 9
12	16	..	1317	..	26902	2037	522	1 1 1/2	..	20	14	4 12 11
13	20	5	1527	257	36669	3339	337	1 8	..	25	16	4 9 0
14	11	1	838	91	21695	1323	271	1 3 1/2	..	..	26	3 8 6
15	328	90	31271	9669	491254	51080	7776	1 5	923	521	442	64 11 8
	1321	275	107899	26050	1942383	188122	26134	..	929	1841	836	286 2 11
16	..	26	..	2083	5796	675	112	..	42	..	..	0 10 6
	1321	301	107899	28133	1948179	188797	26246	..	971	1841	836	286 13 5
	1305	274	91058	24708	1773820	143273	23093	..	940	1625	824	272 14 8
	..	26	..	1794	4353	340	113	..	43	..	..	0 10 6
	1305	300	91058	26502	1778173	148613	23206	..	983	1625	824	273 5 2

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Members.	LIABILITIES.				ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, including any Over-draft from Bank.	Reserve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Buildings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.	
							House Property.	All other Investments.		
No. 7—HUDDERSFIELD DIS.		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
Retail Distrib. Societies—										
Brockholes	450	11415	1022	466	2880	1783	1175	3170	350	1
Central Working Men's (Golcar)	500	9014	796	358	4112	2936	1180	3639	779	2
Close Hill	904	24868	1738	3098	7271	4244	11148	9242	646	3
Cowms, Lepton	247	2545	60	41	914	193		2217	37	4
Crosland Moor	1191	23727	1097	1174	7745	2905	2580	15626	890	5
Dogley Bar	221	3794	392	336	1689	615		2677	284	6
Emley	443	8015	288	152	3384	826	38	5029	854	7
Flockton	278	3141	966	599	2223	1083	689	1546	720	8
Golcar	1142	47843	3926	1621	8793	4150	2380	42954	423	9
Hepworth	669	30238	3985	717	11513	2538	989	23464	725	10
Highburton	310	2875		378	1751	532		2961	381	11
Hillhouse	3273	31371	104	1044	15610	13755	2709	5464	560	12
Hill Top (Paddock)	745	10186	125	662	3782	831	106	8074	449	13
Hinchcliffe Mill	1243	24895	100	900	9028	4250	210	15168	909	14
Honley	1392	31059	3847	1095	9092	9252	4713	17404	178	15
Huddersfield	20687	272218	35715	15888	126969	78891	46306	92569	2267	16
a Junction House (Slaithwaite)	32	2389	..	..	1536	630		1440	503	17
Kirkburton	320	5756	..	442	2065	335	987	3773	323	18
Kirkheaton	344	10075	..	561	2350	3592	206	5720	466	19
Lane Dyehouse	545	7513	266	419	3498	1746	3072	1212	267	20
Lepton Field	177	2155	39	148	1159	433	..	1330	72	21
Town Bottom	120	1100		270	1019			875	43	22
Linthwaite	973	15473	676	558	5545	2495	4684	7654	721	22
Longwood	559	20414	1171	806	8979	3187	4519	9670	479	24
Marsden Equitable	1135	31381	12614	1712	13104	8076	12034	17260	705	25
Meltham Industrial	1236	45616	5586	1690	11065	5209	5094	36669	1103	26
Mills Provident	221	3519		398	1000			3472	308	27
Milnsbridge	2139	23063	2274	289	11672	7811	3648	9467	953	28
Netherthong	347	10673	887	272	2837	2253	404	7265	255	29
Nettleton	197	1167	103	177	753	1025		263	126	30
Parkgate and Berry Brow	1085	29015	1481	2499	6510	2356	8245	21158	222	31
Scapgoat Hill	330	9378	1712	411	1917	1134	..	9732	343	32
Scissett	1284	11569	2342	587	6328	4257	2042	3763	851	33
Sheepridge	495	9774		527	3015	1442	1069	6243	220	34
Shelley	411	11561	200	356	2341	2231		9042	629	35
Shepley	502	13437	1033	420	3434	791	2861	9802	451	36
Skelmanthorpe	586	20307	638	692	8579	3968	729	9669	578	37
Slaithwaite	2047	70446	29253	7275	13806	15245	3558	85461	1095	38
South Cros'nd & Nethertn	606	13262	13	895	8556	2113	1262	3946	755	39
Wooldale	730	30749	2050	849	5197	3614	4153	23153	585	40
Retail Soc. Total for 1918	51632	940506	116449	51382	343051	202918	132889	544240	22485	
Distrib. Federations—										
Holmfirth Boot and Shoe	44	1200	68	185	1560	82		25	53	41
Scarwood Coal	48	1600		214	171	5	1714	1510	2303	42
Distrib. Feder. Total for 1918	12	2800	68	399	1731	87	1714	1535	2356	
Productive Society—										
Wm. Thomson and Sons	424	14873	11464	2960	11574	614	..	9504	14292	43
District Total for 1918	52068	958269	127981	54681	356356	203619	134603	555279	39133	
<i>Retail Societies Total for previous year (1917)</i>	<i>50791</i>	<i>922174</i>	<i>94692</i>	<i>38454</i>	<i>245481</i>	<i>197896</i>	<i>134896</i>	<i>480278</i>	<i>27296</i>	
<i>Distrib. Federations Total for previous year (1917)</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>2800</i>	<i>..</i>	<i>189</i>	<i>1393</i>	<i>105</i>	<i>1778</i>	<i>1457</i>	<i>1444</i>	
<i>Productive Society Total for previous year (1917)</i>	<i>422</i>	<i>14870</i>	<i>20021</i>	<i>3972</i>	<i>20671</i>	<i>663</i>	<i>..</i>	<i>5290</i>	<i>15330</i>	
<i>District Total for previous year (1917)</i>	<i>51225</i>	<i>839844</i>	<i>114713</i>	<i>12615</i>	<i>267545</i>	<i>198064</i>	<i>136674</i>	<i>487025</i>	<i>44070</i>	

No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.			Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.							
Distributive.	Pro-ductive.		Distributive.	Pro-ductive.		Net Profit.	Inter-est on Share Capital	Average Dividend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.			
			£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.	
1	8	1	729	143	20502	2442	476	1 11	..	12	7	2 3 9	
2	7	2	628	240	25250	2862	406	2 6	..	..	9	2 12 1
3	18	2	2057	78	43840	5364	1126	1 10	..	24	14	4 19 0	
4	4	..	371	..	13086	1367	118	2 2½	..	..	3	1 2 10
5	24	9	2578	828	55542	6123	920	1 11	..	20	36	6 4 6	
6	3	..	301	..	10817	1261	150	2 2	..	..	3	1 2 11
7	8	1	805	23	26649	1514	372	1 2	..	..	4	2 7 1
8	6	2	488	47	22662	2141	121	2 0	..	..	..	..
9	18	8	2479	660	60960	8683	2062	2 11	..	..	16	5 17 8
10	17	2	1442	158	48803	5960	1394	2 0	..	10	21	3 10 1	
11	3	..	399	..	14281	2538	151	3 5	..	..	2	..
12	65	10	5441	1062	105438	11088	1443	1 8	..	..	202	16 13 9
13	11	..	1049	..	28105	4118	509	2 6	..	..	24	4 0 7
14	24	..	2412	..	55075	6197	894	1 10½	..	..	43	6 8 11
15	30	7	2906	959	57328	6006	1222	1 9	..	35	35	6 16 4	
16	496	158	48801	13209	768087	79691	11619	1 10½	..	702	480	105 4 0	
17	5	..	417	..	13546	2054	116	3 8	..	..	..	1 13 10
18	4	..	398	..	17237	2057	230	2 2	..	..	5	1 13 9
19	7	1	691	70	19278	2210	451	2 4½	..	..	5	1 16 6
20	11	1	940	130	19847	2053	302	1 9	..	..	18	2 14 11
21	2	..	213	..	9689	1209	89	2 4	..	..	2	0 18 4
22	2	..	172	..	7921	1013	52	2 5	..	..	3	0 12 7
23	14	5	1523	330	37588	4047	622	2 3	..	..	7	5 1 4
24	11	8	1625	620	49788	5376	890	1 11	..	5	22	4 7 4	
25	31	16	3131	1170	72194	6884	1326	1 10	..	20	10	5 16 6	
26	23	14	2320	983	77457	9503	1916	2 0	..	28	14	6 9 0	
27	3	..	295	..	8271	1200	153	2 7	..	..	5	1 4 3
28	23	12	3245	990	81958	8881	1122	1 11	..	5	25	11 7 0	
29	6	2	574	81	16767	1804	458	2 0	..	..	11	1 15 0
30	2	..	222	..	8786	1233	56	2 3½	..	..	26	..
31	25	2	2170	309	53748	6081	1121	2 0	..	..	15	5 10 9
32	7	4	631	254	22504	2873	426	2 3	..	..	13	1 11 3
33	17	3	1711	219	53679	4513	555	1 8	..	..	14	6 13 9
34	6	..	591	..	20263	2818	428	2 5	..	..	4	2 11 2
35	8	1	627	60	23628	2669	514	2 0	..	..	7	2 2 8
36	7	2	657	156	25364	2944	617	1 9	..	..	10	2 12 0
37	15	..	1256	..	39162	2332	959	1 0	..	..	7	3 0 8
38	63	37	6172	2847	163225	21280	3337	2 6	..	25	30	15 16 4	
39	10	8	1430	516	38969	3431	630	1 7	..	..	6	3 1 3
40	18	6	1589	476	39092	4513	1363	2 0	..	14	21	3 12 6	
1062			324	105476	26627	2276386	250333	40725	900	1170	261 6 2
41	3	5	192	697	5119	506	60	1 11	..	..	1	0 10 0
42	2	..	357	..	24994	2516	80	2 3	..	..	17	0 5 0
5			5	549	697	30113	3022	140	..	..	18	0 15 0
43	..	94	..	12687	85369	* 4828	743	..	..	..	57	3 5 0
1067			423	106025	40011	2391868	258183	11608	900	1254	265 6 2
1085			312	87959	22047	2231609	243751	35768	966	1139	247 13 1
5			4	440	449	29343	4122	130	..	..	1	0 15 0
..			106	..	11884	81611	6606	743	..	..	52	3 5 0
1040			422	88399	34380	2342563	247873	36641	966	1192	251 13 1

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Members.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, including any Over-draft from Bank.	Re-serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Buildings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.
							House Prop-erty.	All other Investments.	
No. 8—MACCLESFIELD, CREWE, AND DIST.—		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Retail Distrib. Societies—									
Burslem	17458	149221	13101	13064	79800	62187	270	58985	1
Butt Lane	2714	27089	10242	2298	26198	7987	5934	4245	2725
Zongleton	240	53006	14595	3016	20672	11289	3446	42662	3266
Crewe Friendly	12927	214341	27721	24036	86635	66943	51646	82124	5903
Disley	379	8814	1141	924	1840	933	2773	5778	386
Dove Holes	405	5856	1082	649	2383	458	122	5026	449
Great Rocks	240	3801	197	481	2448	1089	150	1146	141
Hazel Grove	1313	50236	1962	2048	7253	6935	6249	16060	933
Leek and Moorlands	4667	52371	8115	2864	32270	20237	3763	13968	3485
Macclesfield	7498	107041	47824	4287	43295	20345	29944	88651	2434
Malkins Bank	251	3297	..	257	571	90	270	3111	186
Peak Forest	97	981	..	555	882	6	..	745	377
Poynton and Worth	580	22959	27	793	4872	2179	2397	15258	538
Sandbach	2586	37366	5267	1241	16066	12600	3432	13319	2011
Silverdale	6150	64211	405	7928	32642	11620	5569	31151	15
Stockport	12890	197618	4047	4907	83964	60434	13377	74386	3514
" Great Moor	475	6775	1156	530	2412	1760	752	3957	165
Styal	253	1780	212	661	1127	60	..	1416	279
Whitehough	82	626	..	7	249	130	..	280	89
Winnington, Northwich, and District	4535	37686	20602	5416	20807	19617	11580	18098	634
Winsford	3800	44915	4423	2954	21191	15446	4359	15485	4287
Woodley	740	10868	1952	611	5562	2312	2995	2950	546
Yongrave	561	5454	241	2503	3573	1115	134	3360	928
Retail Socs. Total for 1918	54761	1086312	164412	82930	498712	325772	149162	497156	34176
Productive Societies—									
aLeek Silk Twist Manufg	124	10256	13929	2489	8670	3750	..	7728	22969
Macclesfield Silk Manufg	227	8648	10099	833	10940	3798	..	3549	6137
Nantwich Boot and Shoe	108	798	425	533	774	680	..	842	421
Produce. Socs. Total for 1918	459	19702	24453	3855	20384	8228	..	12119	29527
District Total for 1918	85220	1106014	188865	86785	519096	334000	149162	509275	63703
<i>Retail Societies Total for previous year (1917)</i>	<i>84193</i>	<i>989671</i>	<i>140928</i>	<i>70382</i>	<i>354264</i>	<i>335409</i>	<i>167021</i>	<i>447121</i>	<i>59005</i>
<i>Productive Societies Total for previous year (1917)</i>	<i>492</i>	<i>18250</i>	<i>20056</i>	<i>2923</i>	<i>20754</i>	<i>8995</i>	<i>..</i>	<i>7027</i>	<i>17070</i>
<i>District Total for previous year (1917)</i>	<i>84685</i>	<i>1007921</i>	<i>160984</i>	<i>73305</i>	<i>375018</i>	<i>344404</i>	<i>167021</i>	<i>454148</i>	<i>76975</i>
No. 9—MANCHESTER DIS.—									
Retail Distrib. Societies—									
Beswick	15774	172055	38400	13253	71094	73740	12628	88728	4040
Blackley	7628	114324	1354	5325	40710	36907	27377	34716	1463
Broadbottom	345	1736	1	140	1094	335	..	703	50
aChisworth	194	1352	..	289	860	4	..	889	163
Clifton	712	15105	3134	611	6903	3838	4230	5436	546
Compstall	3661	67889	13134	5078	22000	14877	14162	41865	1916
Denton and Haughton	1729	37313	4839	1913	13935	7386	3394	22519	1403
Droylsden	7665	111109	32109	12176	86104	62237	16942	17874	127
Eccles	19484	281149	51149	12001	95010	117175	92208	61708	4855
Failssworth	12114	211176	16221	13595	82992	43456	53151	90006	103
Glossop Dale	3507	95829	9745	3109	12326	11613	12124	79693	9
Hadfield	1064	46054	6020	1529	7210	4564	3495	40201	318
Haughton Green	571	5121	2006	200	4116	665	1402	2350	337
Hayfield	599	9792	1977	731	2584	997	1617	7931	331
Hollingworth	808	12327	..	320	4381	2579	2234	3467	568
Hyde	3380	48884	7558	2315	23409	12162	11636	15693	1063

	No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.						
	Distributive.	Productive.	Distributive.	Productive.		Net Profit.	Interest on Share Capital	Average Dividend per £.	Bonns on Wages.	Subscriptions.		
										Educa- tional Pur- poses.	Chari- table Pur- poses.	Co-operative Union.
			£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.
1	391	78	29291	7162	554843	54296	6292	1 8	..	685	223	89 0 6
2	62	13	4413	1250	110458	11230	1188	1 9	..	22	79	13 10 4
3	78	22	7298	2714	187081	27342	2326	2 7	..	389	373	21 16 1
4	362	152	20761	14289	546742	61486	9039	1 10 3	..	..	581	66 0 0
5	8	..	688	..	22790	2272	329	1 11 1	..	32	19	1 18 6
6	4	..	480	..	15857	1744	190	1 11 3	..	20	2	2 2 10
7	4	..	389	..	8582	1000	168	1 10	..	..	11	1 2 11
8	31	6	2785	553	60281	7054	1074	2 0	..	..	69	6 17 8
9	92	26	7295	2886	161666	17466	2178	1 11 1	..	..	603	23 18 6
10	170	55	15884	4406	231253	32283	4530	1 10	..	400	227	39 10 11
11	3	1	263	70	10532	1719	144	3 2	..	..	3	..
12	2	..	201	..	7389	590	45	1 11 1	..	..	1	0 10 0
13	14	2	1489	166	35396	2868	864	1 3	..	1	27	3 0 2
14	75	25	5035	2096	118426	19598	1648	1 6 1	..	204	..	12 15 5
15	114	16	7695	1977	181168	22701	2734	2 3	..	100	75	31 14 6
16	301	33	25583	3994	517454	63214	7599	1 10	..	571	182	68 1 9
17	8	1	1078	26	20702	1526	249	1 2 1	..	..	3	2 9 4
18	5	2	399	137	8694	806	80	2 0	..	..	8	1 6 8
19	1	..	83	..	1361	94	6	1 0	..	..	..	0 7 6
20	116	13	9063	1598	157168	14691	1504	1 9	..	136	..	24 1 2
21	86	22	7929	1619	167553	19308	1874	2 0	209	..	750	19 7 6
22	14	..	1313	..	28956	3210	380	1 9 1	..	..	9	3 18 6
23	12	..	776	..	20146	1091	229	1 7 1	..	..	17	2 15 2
	1953	465	159191	44943	3224511	358592	44670	..	209	2560	3262	436 5 11
24	..	112	..	11870	101059	6952	492	..	751	..	38	5 0 0
25	..	113	..	10720	39585	3583	432	..	..	..	..	2 0 0
26	..	27	..	1505	6925	536	67	0 3	144	..	2	1 1 0
	..	252	..	24095	147569	11071	991	..	895	..	40	8 1 0
	1953	717	159191	69038	3372080	369663	15661	..	1104	2560	3302	444 6 11
	1920	483	129032	38676	3019902	356428	39024	..	205	2469	2296	414 4 11
	..	250	..	16931	84209	5744	502	..	744	..	54	5 1 0
	1920	733	129032	55607	3104111	362172	39526	..	949	2469	2350	419 5 11
1	310	56	31780	5327	572635	72055	6341	2 4 1	673	350	396	....
2	170	30	18308	5674	310961	31476	4526	1 9 1	..	663	81	39 12 3
3	5	..	379	..	10267	973	48	2 0	..	..	..	..
4	3	..	274	..	8234	927	52	2 7 1	..	..	..	..
5	21	4	1718	387	39094	4261	701	1 9	..	..	25	3 12 11
6	85	16	7444	1808	140886	15659	2607	1 9 1	..	143	..	19 9 7
7	42	5	4175	687	96582	8725	1705	1 6	..	20	67	9 7 3
8	207	41	20886	5097	357261	34652	5065	1 8 1	..	159	169	39 14 4
9	584	103	53681	10091	745326	70888	12108	1 6	..	2171	292	102 8 0
10	325	58	32022	7372	487006	47976	8860	2 0	..	662	189	60 17 2
11	74	21	6378	2241	139807	20243	4266	2 4 1	..	234	172	17 8 0
12	29	12	3412	862	66705	6944	2091	1 5	..	20	48	8 17 6
13	13	4	1388	317	33386	3001	238	1 10 1	..	..	19	2 18 5
14	17	..	1093	..	20696	2047	382	1 8	..	21	21	3 3 4
15	18	4	1836	394	29242	2616	579	1 4	..	12	28	4 6 0
16	78	27	8534	1589	117967	8490	2202	0 11 1	..	99	85	18 0 0

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Mem- bers.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, including any Over-draft from Bank.	Re-serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Buildings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.
							House Property.	All other Investments.	
MANCHESTER DISTRICT—Con		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Manchester and Salford...	20132	282492	15764	13892	78391	80616	46704	130772	1548
New Mills	2971	58927	4524	3514	14410	11116	17840	23082	409
New Moston	718	11385	458	738	2999	2061	1060	8656	19
Pendleton	30772	474398	30177	24325	157608	124979	75084	202633	988
Prestwich	5163	85186	36827	3127	26083	31556	63150	5883	1045
Rhodes	1282	24394	1199	636	6434	1838	7495	10403	1592
Roe Green—Worsley....	243	9354	2004	370	2171	971	2941	6812	48
Swinton—Industrial ..	880	9531	2098	1527	7644	3179	1827	1947	258
Moorside	924	12233	2869	798	6609	3042	3864	4623	723
Whaley Bridge & Buxton	2628	50495	6319	2155	16507	5800	10641	30625	1982
Whitefield and Unsworth	1115	22015	160	270	5591	5022	3505	8824	175
Retail Soc's. Total for 1918	146263	2270225	290154	125937	799265	662715	192681	953099	27150
Distrib. Federation— Hadfield & Hol'ngw'ith C ^l	h2	1000	..	390	337	182	..	1130	183
Productive Societies— Co-op. Sundries Manufac- turing (Droylsden)....	518	25327	6627	6400	26698	11299	..	3117	11792
Eccles Manufacturing ..	247	16165	8819	3929	12268	10459	..	7023	2980
Hyde Co-op. Laundry ..	7	3564	1960	..	1044	4555	..	331	178
M'chester & Dist. Laund'y	h15	20970	12189	261	..	29890	..	2658	2949
Manchester—Newspaper	360	11227	5939	295	2375	8221	..	4515	5796
" Printing ..	753	23644	..	34683	49809	13902	..	16028	26265
Produc. Soc's. Total for 1918	1900	100897	35534	45568	92194	78326	..	33672	40960
District Total for 1918	148165	2372122	325688	171895	891796	741223	192681	987901	77293
<i>Retail Societies Total for previous year (1917)</i>	149379	2074486	242627	107011	575320	667566	516098	858904	34803
<i>Distrib. Federation Total for previous year (1917)</i>	h2	1000	..	507	375	107	..	1189	210
<i>Productive Societies Total for previous year (1917)</i>	1862	99228	30557	32039	76970	78990	..	26798	36019
<i>District Total for previous year (1917)</i>	151243	2174714	273184	139557	652665	746672	516098	886891	71032
No. 10—NORTH-EAST LAN- CASHIRE DISTRICT—									
Retail Distrib. Societies—									
Accrington and Church..	11018	290736	52677	7978	77809	43224	146209	99894	..
" Provident ..	1023	7455	7247	51	9214	6943	891	205	1
Barnoldswick	1706	27740	10470	1065	14937	15722	9162	2952	814
Barrowford Industrial...	710	10670	1924	651	3247	2062	1326	7456	407
Billington and Whalley ..	751	18594	5137	2108	5982	7842	31192	10655	118
Blackburn—Daisyfield ..	4065	80412	6025	2303	22959	32564	26456	9445	1466
" Excelsior ..	404	3923	..	58	1210	484	1441	1468	545
" Grimshaw P.	5220	58738	250	3440	16497	13821	14004	23822	..
" Industrial ..	4466	60448	11793	2051	18302	31819	21415	4824	2128
" Livesey	468	4303	679	450	1456	1875	1850	398	415
Brierfield	1619	25129	12771	1372	15531	9713	9059	6552	448
Burnley	19056	268249	15523	17557	148506	85290	67812	34323	2443
Clayton-le-Moors	2676	54270	38810	3225	11100	6855	59618	21256	1057
Clitheroe	1715	24037	7565	3272	9696	15670	1713	10239	626
Colne	9929	124246	14593	5837	50300	44110	23943	35137	1661
Darwen Industrial ..	10669	394221	11721	17572	45384	58519	202740	128278	159
" Provident	1900	20144	4754	1202	6901	14271	..	8786	..
Earby	1084	23468	1668	1316	13818	5185	1158	9725	281
Great Harwood	3582	82994	14743	2645	31667	22681	34027	19138	1954
Higham	186	2186	..	163	643	250	150	1543	..
Huddlesden	342	9330	2027	..	4397	1440	3916	4252	209

	No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.						
	Distri- butive.	Pro- ductive.	Distri- butive.	Pro- ductive.		Net Profit.	In- terest on Share Capital	Aver- age Divi- dend per £.	Bouns on Wages.	Subscriptions.		
										Educa- tional Pur- poses.	Char- itable Pur- poses.	Co-operative Union.
			£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	s. d.	
17	453	60	39053	6506	582307	62059	12586	1 5	..	540	433	109 19 6
18	58	10	4972	1025	83165	8996	1889	1 9	..	111	73	14 5 6
19	18	3	1610	220	37240	4100	450	2 0	..	82	..	3 12 8
20	808	134	87940	17790	1129382	122037	19754	1 9	..	143	619	163 9 7
21	108	27	11784	3398	178704	14304	3830	1 5 1/2	..	169	24	27 5 2
22	19	5	1783	557	44835	3164	908	1 0 1/2	..	..	26	6 0 7
23	5	2	465	214	12802	1701	398	2 0	..	22	19	1 4 8
24	22	2	1790	279	38223	4232	404	1 10 1/2	22	..	10	4 10 0
25	18	5	1538	597	42124	4801	511	1 10 1/2	..	..	21	4 13 9
26	68	17	6170	1477	116266	11442	1927	1 8 1/2	..	149	37	13 6 0
27	21	3	2068	125	39556	2121	975	0 8	..	..	24	5 13 6
	3579	649	352481	74034	5480719	569890	95423	..	695	5770	2878	683 15 8
28	6	..	567	..	15930	1302	50	2 0	..	..	1	3 3 0
29	..	150	..	12391	128741	8369	1889	0 7 1/2	738	..	97	5 0 0
30	6	78	831	4908	43199	1878	1022	..	..	..	17	1 10 0
31	..	75	..	4455	9688	270	89	1 0	..	..	..	0 5 0
32	..	200	..	14611	28583	1767	1049	1 9	..	..	..	1 0 0
33	..	52	..	8408	35586	796	484	..	..	..	38	15 0 0
34	51	427	7830	44730	235138	29266	1178	2 0	2176	..	426	12 10 0
	57	982	8661	89503	480935	42346	5711	..	2914	..	578	35 5 0
	3642	1631	361709	163537	5977584	613538	101184	..	3609	5770	3457	722 3 8
	3655	662	289158	64139	5251827	608747	76926	..	704	6006	2978	673 15 10
	5	..	473	..	17891	1547	50	2 0	..	..	..	3 3 0
	65	960	9091	71980	359475	32431	4851	..	1986	..	514	35 10 0
	3725	1622	298722	136119	5629193	642725	81827	..	2690	6006	3492	712 8 10
1	252	96	17314	14164	408824	51118	11057	2 0	..	768	662	57 8 6
2	16	1	1374	14	25969	1922	314	1 6 1/2	..	..	6	4 7 7
3	33	23	3371	1553	76341	5921	1302	1 4	..	70	20	9 2 5
4	10	4	913	370	24366	2833	409	2 1 1/2	..	70	13	3 14 6
5	21	7	1653	624	32805	3564	703	1 9 1/2	..	35	19	4 0 0
6	98	36	8672	3879	148001	16076	3565	1 8 1/2	..	..	92	21 12 4
7	5	..	514	..	21444	3349	176	..	..	..	2	..
8	96	48	8914	4041	166245	17519	2860	1 9 1/2	..	..	61	26 13 4
9	119	33	7405	2434	144189	16502	2816	2 1	..	..	68	22 17 1
10	14	..	1049	..	21605	1538	211	1 7	..	..	4	2 9 2
11	29	22	2633	2268	62710	6658	957	1 10	..	145	44	8 6 0
12	389	223	32338	17907	610568	75429	10645	2 3	..	1720	252	102 15 2
13	29	27	2772	1577	93977	15030	2310	2 8	..	160	106	13 18 9
14	45	13	3419	832	65637	6754	954	1 11	..	89	44	9 2 11
15	141	79	12505	7763	302962	30195	4759	1 8 1/2	..	330	110	35 9 7
16	173	74	12930	5771	292348	46102	16263	2 0	..	546	179	55 4 2
17	..	..	2587	..	34537	4806	712	..	..	..	..	..
18	22	10	1754	897	45885	5569	997	2 0	..	..	7	5 12 2
19	96	73	9060	6336	190270	21331	3794	2 0	..	180	72	18 12 5
20	2	..	194	..	6045	579	87	2 0	..	..	9	0 16 0
21	8	..	622	..	21148	3167	373	2 6	..	..	2	1 11 3

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Mem- bers.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, includ- ing any Over- draft from Bank.	Re- serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Bldings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.
							House Prop- erty.	All other Invest- ments.	
NORTH-EAST LANCASHIRE DISTRICT—Con.		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
d/Lr. Darwen—Excelsior ..	209	3579	1273	29	569	1454	2077	1147	22
Fore Street ..	283	5337	3975	290	1336	4443	721	3442	23
Low Moor ..	310	3628	..	394	1404	..	..	3638	183
Nelson ..	9089	218519	23911	8695	76817	72241	64795	57272	2670
Oswaldtwistle ..	1821	47835	8845	2241	8206	4322	26841	21176	26
Padiham ..	3000	30425	5343	1187	15854	13576	3896	5705	748
Rishton ..	1690	41760	34748	1940	9720	10869	21123	40412	28
Sabden Industrial ..	325	4496	1423	466	2947	290	176	3206	89
Trawden ..	387	4912	2149	492	2526	2167	1017	2314	52
Wheatley Lane ..	166	3938	205	314	844	580	1023	2516	52
Winewall ..	317	4635	51	170	2803	1413	413	752	63
Retail Socs. Total for 1918	98091	1960357	302700	90534	632582	531695	757764	581928	18591
Productive Societies— Burnley Self-Help Manu. North-East Lancashire Laundries ..	301 13	11667 4509	26317 2000	.. 200	25625 682	11073 5919	.. ..	1231 239	5624 41
Produc. Socs. Total for 1918	314	16176	28317	200	26307	16992	..	1470	5665
District Total for 1918	98405	1976323	331017	90734	658889	548687	757764	583398	24256
Retail Societies Total for previous year (1917)	96946	1878697	289339	79845	480198	539461	837876	554276	19335
Productive Societies Total for previous year (1917)	322	13283	23442	585	17705	17218	..	906	7209
District Total for previous year (1917) ..	97268	1891980	312781	80430	497903	556679	837876	555181	26544
No. 11—NORTH LANCA- SHIRE DISTRICT.									
Retail Distrib. Societies—									
Bamber Bridge ..	939	7823	2901	642	5129	4055	2365	2915	199
Bentham ..	258	5826	124	198	2182	1203	368	2850	134
Blackpool ..	13822	237799	6543	10217	71952	62094	13267	118040	1943
Fleetwood ..	3468	37903	4593	1226	18328	7796	10507	10319	..
Fylde—Kirkham ..	843	22983	3924	2305	8090	3779	1685	16254	1114
Gregson Lane ..	151	2178	178	178	1049	369	584	762	98
Higher Walton ..	215	3018	..	96	769	32	..	2683	7
Lancaster ..	12378	290725	14409	17176	60301	51771	36120	195148	1691
Leyland and Farington ..	2116	38398	5564	1482	12380	6183	5516	23430	..
Longridge ..	1391	26613	2832	1971	10529	5096	3815	15080	633
Preston ..	28079	294762	25080	28499	110108	72175	92057	113235	953
Ribchester ..	207	3267	180	19	1606	655	1100	657	133
Southport ..	2714	20958	2666	3392	7400	7446	3422	12275	51
Walmer Bridge ..	472	4263	..	330	1360	1241	630	1798	..
Retail Socs. Total for 1918	69453	996511	68994	67731	311239	223895	171436	615646	6949
Productive Society— Blackpool Union Printers ..	140	1154	991	169	753	652	..	261	1006
District Total for 1918	69593	997665	69985	67900	311992	224547	171436	515907	7955
Retail Societies Total for previous year (1917)	67657	851939	64073	51220	243727	321156	192918	382896	7171
Productive Society Total for previous year (1917)	140	1139	1008	169	861	895	..	314	815
District Total for previous year (1917) ..	67797	853078	65081	51389	244588	232051	192918	383212	7986

No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.						
					Net Profit.	Interest on Share Capital.	Average Dividend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.		
Distributive.	Productive.	Distributive.	Productive.						Educational Purposes.	Charitable Purposes.	Co-operative Union.
		£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	s. d.
22	4	..	273	..	7368	1491	184	4 0	..	..	..
23	3	..	356	..	11448	1028	219	1 5	..	..	1 9 2
24	4	..	411	..	12305	2077	174	3 0	..	..	1 12 3
25	209	195	22311	17497	423123	39160	8598	1 8	..	1009	72 51 17 9
26	40	16	3356	1607	70361	8192	1904	2 0	..	98	46 9 17 8
27	50	23	4869	2427	90852	9350	1360	1 10 1	..	222	57 15 7 4
28	40	18	3803	1717	79256	9466	1602	2 0	..	..	84 8 11 4
29	4	..	446	..	13321	1285	211	1 8 1/2	..	..	5 1 15 6
30	8	3	766	254	14282	1667	178	2 3	..	..	4 2 0 0
31	3	..	292	..	7304	628	162	2 3	..	..	2 0 16 8
32	5	3	661	210	15133	1118	187	1 7	..	..	3 1 10 0
	1968	1027	169537	94142	3540629	411424	30043	..	..	5442	2071 499 1 0
33	6	115	1956	7549	137642	2970	496	..	..	..	1 2 10 0
34	..	57	..	3955	8220	315	225	..	..	..	29 0 5 0
	6	172	1956	11504	145862	3285	721	..	..	..	30 2 15 0
	1974	1199	171493	105646	3686491	414709	30764	..	..	5442	2101 501 16 0
	1949	1040	143680	78822	3500916	480241	77111	..	..	5935	1395 470 17 5
	6	165	1284	9755	92163	1988	661	..	..	..	28 2 15 0
	1955	1205	144964	88577	3593079	482220	77772	..	..	5935	1423 473 12 5
1	19	1	1505	195	32199	2686	271	1 6 1/2	..	..	17 4 15 10
2	5	..	416	..	10812	982	261	2 0	..	..	14 1 10 9
3	185	127	17003	12145	328034	27571	9231	1 2	..	297	102 69 6 7
4	60	22	5794	1375	116584	10941	1553	1 11 1/2	..	187	69 17 12 0
5	22	7	2004	455	46520	5358	1025	1 11	..	46	17 4 7 6
6	2	..	175	..	7493	896	90	2 3 1/2	..	..	0 12 10
7	3	..	280	..	9408	1123	143	2 3	..	..	5 1 2 1
8	243	56	10422	4977	366816	51676	9985	2 0	..	500	1382 72 4 0
9	44	26	3550	1827	73736	7077	1383	1 6	..	..	17 9 10 0
10	22	14	2507	1404	50093	5269	1045	1 6	..	91	28 7 5 3
11	433	108	37307	10825	761762	93015	12939	2 0	..	1000	147 148 11 2
12	3	..	330	..	8876	672	138	2 0 1/2	..	..	2 1 1 10
13	67	7	3869	810	70933	5166	906	1 6	..	23	4 11 2 8
14	8	2	607	80	14180	1369	196	1 7 1/2	..	..	7 2 9 0
	1116	370	94769	34093	1897446	213801	39106	..	..	2144	1811 351 11 6
15	..	21	..	2001	5748	162	54	..	..	..	.. 1 6 0
	1116	391	94769	36094	1903194	213963	39220	..	..	2144	1811 352 17 6
	1115	374	75159	28792	1847997	222229	30630	..	..	2197	487 329 3 1
	..	18	..	1443	3518	131	53	..	..	..	.. 1 5 0
	1115	392	75159	30235	1851515	222360	30683	..	..	2197	487 330 8 1

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Members.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, including any Overdraft from Bank.	Re-serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Buildings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
No. 12—NORTH LONSDALE DISTRICT—									
Retail Distrib. Societies—									
Ambleside	418	2104	526	31	1609	1006	882	435	1
Barrow-in-Furness	14005	254356	18832	33783	103946	67579	21945	136568	940
d Broughton-in-Furness ..	178	1764	189	150	226	353	1170	391	92
Carnforth	2185	47306	4943	2933	17887	9684	11241	20220	1270
Coniston	288	2828	123	50	751	995	1246	338	5
Dalton-in-Furness	3193	72755	300	2309	29349	13680	5515	35638	940
Hawkshead	365	4773	428	243	2099	1843	97	803	911
Kendal	2783	32093	1144	1688	13715	10129	1061	10989	925
Kirkby-in-Furness	535	13356	808	799	5004	3495	2374	4863	369
Langdale	319	4281	242	262	1944	1037	294	1681	557
Leven Valley	255	4545	843	110	2704	417	1943	669	225
d Lower Holker	223	2952	121	1406	655	505	575	231	12
Millom	2241	45857	210	3070	19164	5175	4207	23963	1322
Sedbergh (New)	147	664	4	110	762	9	232	55	14
Swarthmoor & Ulverston ..	2821	61878	405	4578	22673	12883	9484	23371	1778
d Windermere	289	2430	75	33	737	858	1075	269	16
Retail Soccs. Total for 1918	32250	553942	29072	50270	223976	129798	59836	262666	10657
Supply Association—									
a Furness and South Cum- berland	349	1995	..	1140	1757	101	169	1372	2830
District Total for 1918	32599	555937	29072	51410	225733	129899	60005	264038	13487
Retail Societies Total for previous year (1917)	31647	490214	19808	28189	172038	133153	61024	209993	11253
Supply Association Total for previous year (1917)	349	1995	..	1140	1757	101	169	1372	2830
District Total for previous year (1917)	31996	492209	19808	29329	173795	133254	61193	211365	14083
No. 13—OLDHAM DIST.—									
Retail Distrib Societies—									
Ashton-under-Lyne	6215	137650	13340	14441	59308	37783	39414	35293	681
Crompton (Shaw)	3645	45888	14284	1466	18426	21632	20162	6092	13
Delph	799	23215	1496	635	6022	1890	9998	7884	887
Diggle	343	7744	3102	506	3163	2574	3754	2400	199
Dobcross	274	3004	235	147	1924	58	2297	78	5
Grasscroft	374	4888	2879	217	2434	1849	1367	2861	256
Greenfield	831	26983	8151	918	4430	2925	18602	11226	169
Higher Hurst	1431	17744	17447	2435	7356	5840	3922	23837	15
Hurst Brook	1004	10317	9527	538	5755	6008	1909	8722	289
Junction—Delph	263	4700	50	121	2416	948	2063	386	10
Middleton and Tonge	4191	105254	12067	7976	25377	20805	22917	62566	1084
Mossley	3302	82160	7541	5612	23260	9591	9155	58656	256
Oldham Equitable	14747	308931	19599	17607	89542	61803	67438	144042	278
Industrial	22870	526446	31717	22834	116756	34799	92175	373629	14
Royton	2570	32794	5046	911	14469	12417	8974	7385	40
Stalybridge	4941	101420	4196	2703	21394	15711	9525	67347	16
Uppermill	1359	31905	1230	1304	7216	3345	2794	22272	848
Waterloo	938	22875	3426	1659	4993	6207	7898	10591	798
District Total for 1918	70097	1494017	155333	82030	414241	245985	320004	349168	6277
District Total for previous year (1917)	69264	1288052	143140	78389	283153	249118	363294	712898	8587

No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.						
					Net Profit.	In- terest on Share Capital	Average Divi- dend per %.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.		
Distributive.	Productive.	Distributive.	Productive.						Educa- tional Pur- poses.	Char- itable Pur- poses.	Co-operative Union.
		£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.
1	3	1	340	163	7020	335	80	0 8	..	..	2 2 0
2	364	133	38848	13490	754599	76408	11208	1 6	..	438	84 0 0
3	3	..	148	..	2273	413	84	3 0	..	..	..
4	55	12	4378	668	90290	9408	1944	1 10 1	100	32	11 0 0
5	4	..	303	..	8316	840	124	1 10	..	3	1 7 0
6	88	38	5469	2559	159552	14775	3126	1 6	..	85	21 0 8
7	7	2	448	81	12420	531	202	1 2	..	..	1 11 0
8	59	7	4429	579	84450	7402	1344	1 6	..	253	14 7 0
9	7	4	1065	59	24701	3313	338	2 1 1	20	24	2 15 5
10	6	2	371	136	9107	732	152	1 3	..	..	1 14 4
11	6	..	441	..	10248	1129	190	1 6	..	..	1 4 8
12	3	..	240	..	5951	646	120	2 4	..	4	1 10 4
13	54	22	5393	1766	116648	12895	1913	1 10 1	..	68	11 6 2
14	2	..	168	..	3241	129	28	1 5	..	..	0 14 7
15	54	36	5928	2808	124115	14734	2075	1 9	177	..	14 5 0
16	5	..	295	..	6115	555	70	1 8	..	3	..
	720	257	68264	22300	1419064	144245	22098	..	3	297	910 168 18 2
17	5	..	450	..	25494	1198	92	1 0	..	..	..
	725	257	63714	22309	1444558	145443	23090	..	3	297	910 168 18 2
	737	249	56375	18858	1358389	138631	20660	..	3	284	400 156 1 5
	5	..	450	..	25494	1198	92	1 0	..	..	..
	742	249	56825	18858	1383883	139820	20752	..	3	284	400 156 1 5
1	188	84	18541	8923	314893	23801	6175	1 6	..	294	152 30 19 7
2	90	25	9268	2083	143926	12321	1853	3 0	..	165	78 19 1 3
3	13	14	1625	1278	38546	3544	806	1 7	..	39	24 4 0 0
4	10	1	959	41	20150	1595	310	1 6	..	16	14 1 13 11
5	6	..	477	..	25384	1018	119	2 0	..	..	1 3 2
6	8	1	701	27	15992	742	199	0 9 1	..	5	8 1 18 7
7	14	1	1675	52	36439	3875	1181	1 6	..	32	25 4 7 5
8	39	2	3511	302	72492	6444	858	1 6	..	75	.. 7 9 9
9	21	..	2429	..	48336	3124	283	1 6	..	..	4 1 3
10	6	1	707	47	18411	1361	181	1 6	..	8	5 1 7 7
11	120	42	12385	4107	218553	24601	4868	1 10 1	..	160	819 21 17 0
12	62	29	6090	1706	119849	12087	3204	1 3 1	..	185	209 16 14 4
13	295	80	27600	8531	487049	54959	12392	2 0	..	1245	320 76 9 11
14	437	143	40940	10811	802047	99942	19298	2 0	..	2500	3575 116 19 9
15	59	9	8173	432	98651	7011	1226	1 4	..	190	44 13 8 4
16	94	34	9210	2615	187040	21801	4289	2 0	..	145	67 25 16 4
17	23	1	2424	68	48221	4596	1304	1 4	..	20	40 7 3 10
18	30	6	2040	739	48312	4570	1035	1 6	..	40	14 4 17 11
	1515	473	140755	41822	2744291	292392	59438	..	..	5119	5389 359 9 1
	1374	498	114568	34188	2672170	323355	49725	..	..	5190	2510 348 9 11

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Members.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, including any Overdraft from Bank	Reserve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Bldgs., Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
No. 14—ROCHDALE DIST.—									
Retail Distrib. Societies—									
* Bagslate									
Brookbottoms	235	3589	2623	400	1171	201	1957	3552	289
Bury	14614	380099	4148	31128	81601	42080	57674	260433	235
Firgrove	203	2359	397	243	740	746		2009	26
Healey	475	6898	875	2787	1062	260	286	9706	218
Heywood	5924	102325	1547	8837	28477	14612	14190	61731	6
Lane Bottom	83	658	326	164	635	10	459	177	87
Littleborough	2759	42265	10311	2386	27212	15219	10931	6738	669
Millgate	312	2540	329	554	1045	1182		1306	542
Millnrow	276	2346	584	312	1195	810	1154	410	62
Conservative	931	8638	397	1441	5828	647	1376	5003	11
New Hey Industrial	487	5559	5315	172	7183	1639		1882	894
Ramsbottom Industrial	3213	69890	19718	4809	20645	16986	22968	36726	2409
Rochdale Equit. Pioneers	22854	375531	20616	19082	81379	50651	77601	251450	1730
Provident	15745	221986	17566	18780	58426	26542	54107	139298	15
Shawforth	361	3704	546	1010	1780	1262		2457	292
Smallbridge Conservative	313	5484	7	520	1261	188	4225	752	17
Smithy Bridge	268	7239	641	204	2459	1161	3165	1865	79
Summersat and Brooksbottoms	228	3602	2441	240	1529	932	1347	2840	197
Tottington Equitable	528	11529	1941	3165	2124	2173	3679	9714	20
Industrial	1326	30596	2734	1877	5960	5174	3335	22363	466
Wardle	237	5782	623	637	1194	656	3290	2259	21
Whitworth	1146	17977	1275	932	10920	4217	2151	6752	7
Woolfold	796	16718	88	1027	4315	1143	6690	6697	15
Retail Soccs. Total for 1918	73214	1326404	94848	100797	348159	188491	270585	836120	8187
Productive Society—									
Rochdale and District Laundry									
	420	7000	7675	250	1803	14125		49	153
District Total for 1918	73234	1333404	102523	101047	349962	202616	270585	836169	8340
Retail Societies Total for previous year (1917)									
	69194	1207500	46137	87742	228680	168119	266027	787766	6589
Productive Society Total for previous year (1917)									
	420	7000	8252		1178	14777		43	184
District Total for previous year (1917)	69214	1214500	54389	87742	229858	182896	266027	787809	6773
No. 15—ROSSENDALE DIST.									
Retail Distrib. Societies—									
Bacup	3700	82300	10320	6989	20163	13153	9597	61005	5819
Cawl Terrace	1019	14531	308	1669	2069	1470	5193	9360	268
Crawshawbooth	822	35063	709	1232	9297	3125	771	23081	1031
Edenfield	310	8771	345	354	1786	1078	2726	4252	47
Haslingden	3621	60012	30651	6943	21218	23380	26084	31520	399
Helmshore	443	12829	2168	725	4492	2707	4557	4644	257
Love Clough	378	12415	1167	862	3256	1159	2534	8049	291
Lumb	130	1066	203	157	1045	350		359	101
Rawtenstall Conservative	1251	12107	1723	3307	5576	4218	4427	4799	280
Stacksteads and Tunstead	1055	5553	3055	467	6610	2647	1138	1297	1423
Turn	86	1123		75	241	195	286	652	8
Water Peace and Safety	170	2194	514	144	1796	515		896	69
Waterfoot	641	6231	480	402	5980	4035	1187	942	493
Whitewell Bottom	443	5506		547	1741	721	500	3290	705
District Total for 1918	14072	257791	55543	23873	85270	58753	59000	154146	11191
† District Total for previous year (1917)	17191	318451	78349	27455	85901	74213	80805	201413	14204

* No recent information available. † This total includes Ramsbottom Industrial Society, which has been transferred to No. 14 District. d 1916 figures. h Societies.

	No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.						
	Distributive.	Productive.	Distributive.	Productive.		Net Profit.	Interest on Share Capital	Average Dividend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.		
										Educational Purposes.	Charitable Purposes.	Co-operative Union.
			£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.
1												
2	3	1	322	82	10488	1011	156	1 8	..	..	3	3 16 3
3	219	142	21444	11962	494868	64971	16939	1 10 1	..	888	363	76 6 0
4	3		258		10136	1077	82	2 4	..	..	15	1 0 0
5	4	1	415	24	18508	3277	273	4 0	..	6	21	2 13 0
6	126	40	11860	4052	221144	24350	3875	2 0	..	295	170	30 11 8
7	2		148		3244	169	30	2 9	..	..	3	0 8 4
8	90	32	8013	3473	139636	13707	1959	1 11	..	..	58	14 4 6
9	3	4	302	224	11737	1809	107	3 2	..	27	3	1 12 3
10	4		367		8030	674	115	1 7	..	..	1	1 10 0
11	14		1181		38649	3762	396	2 1	..	..	22	4 14 7
12	9	2	907	287	41901	1422	233	..	..	..	6	2 8 8
13	72	25	6919	2469	129151	12798	3190	1 6	..	45	90	16 8 0
14	332	136	30619	12598	637484	81308	15007	2 4	..	837	110	115 18 5
15	151	67	21119	6060	323872	44355	8274	2 4	..	..	..	81 8 4
16	5		438		13239	1410	143	2 0	..	..	4	1 17 5
17	3		317		9974	1576	228	2 7 1	..	..	4	1 7 11
18	4		525		14702	1336	289	2 0	..	..	7	1 8 0
19	3	1	290	130	11233	1024	174	1 8	..	..	3	1 0 0
20	8		606		30037	2674	432	2 1	..	..	5	2 12 1
21	23	8	2479	650	49621	5786	1189	2 0	..	60	11	6 13 1
22	3		219		11193	1412	249	2 10 1	..	..	2	1 4 1
23	26	13	1735	1322	62985	7348	723	2 10 1	..	99	22	4 19 0
24	12		1105		25579	2818	752	1 7 1	..	..	22	4 2 5
	1119	472	111588	43333	2317411	280074	54815	..	..	2257	945	379 8 1
25	..	74	..	5623	12487	1689	350	2 0	..	..	..	0 10 0
	1119	546	111588	48956	2329898	231763	55165	..	..	2257	945	379 18 1
	1098	443	86413	32606	2125573	309610	49503	..	..	2269	771	266 9 2
	..	74	..	5283	12112	1203	280	..	..	..	..	....
	1098	517	86413	37889	2137685	310813	49783	..	..	2269	771	266 9 2
1	78	42	7094	3564	164125	17176	3417	1 10	..	220	110	19 4 8
2	17	4	1494	338	48835	4910	684	1 10	..	64	14	5 4 4
3	16	6	1300	350	39818	5982	1428	2 6	..	..	13	4 6 6
4	3	3	454	175	12967	1508	350	1 9	..	..	6	1 12 10
5	72	46	5282	4586	137391	14277	2373	2 0	..	293	61	18 16 0
6	9		865		24451	3240	475	2 6	..	..	13	2 5 1
7	5		619		16392	2394	492	2 5	..	27	8	2 0 3
8	2		224		6993	579	52	1 4	..	..	2	0 13 6
9	19	4	1676	406	42890	5778	546	2 3	..	..	33	6 7 8
10	15	1	1352	157	32680	1567	258	0 11	..	..	8	5 7 0
11	1		142		4051	571	55	2 9 1	..	..	..	0 7 6
12	3	1	250	82	8209	443	106	0 9	..	..	4	1 1 4
13	17	2	1464	249	29576	1912	286	1 0	..	..	13	3 7 4
14	7	2	742	217	22168	2143	260	1 8	..	..	25	2 5 10
	264	111	22958	10124	590546	62480	10791	..	..	604	310	72 19 10
	322	139	25655	11157	689407	85747	13161	..	..	835	399	84 9 3

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Members.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, including any Overdraft from Bank.	Reserve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Buildings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
No. 16—SOUTH YORKSHIRE DISTRICT—									
Retail Distrib. Societies—									
Bakewell	355	991	114	399	1239			619	132
Barnsley	50368	1076932	6343	45873	352799	227144	210618	448958	16937
Brightside and Carbrook.	4818	471073	52434	27102	217436	157321	34935	240523	11473
Chesterfield	5315	38625	10752	5696	32015	9569	10355	9555	..
Clown	1542	27369	2930	1148	11981	4135	6285	10440	..
*Conisborough									4
†Denaby Main	890	27840	623	6819	3828	1681	3196	29271	438
Doncaster	17655	182376	9542	16239	88638	87994	23631	55781	1001
Eckington	651	7271	..	366	3573	569	629	3756	527
Goole	3500	24245	235	3986	14312	6798	..	9164	268
Handsworth Woodhouse.	2679	32373	2395	4427	23289	9753	3513	8424	1742
Hasland	1045	8425	1443	998	5852	2877	538	3034	50
Heath and Williamthorpe	518	4276	2337	1422	5886	262	2958	956	384
Killamarsh	928	19692	2608	1636	6811	3322	1592	14024	340
Kilnhurst	1287	29848	1738	2300	10298	4195	2965	19575	67
Masbro'	13229	200588	14050	16072	89276	71875	32255	70789	6228
Matlock Bank	1124	9322	3226	574	10582	3312	..	953	1160
Oughtibridge	622	4376	..	710	3766	1217	285	1581	843
Oxcroft	335	3608	235	506	4051	896	..	993	252
Pilsley	836	9471	959	2482	9748	3327	1250	1368	150
Pontefract	9696	51966	29	8428	31730	13135	1959	18800	301
Scunthorpe	5959	50574	6902	3958	23809	19856	5052	20157	249
Sheffield and Ecclesall	26694	217009	25295	15092	161338	66092	13620	60243	2909
†Staveley Town	1318	2388	..	1592	7375	5140	7497	5711	1317
Stocksbridge	3167	67403	217	5862	35058	10663	13754	24783	127
Tideswell	235	1390	12	47	877	16	..	437	97
Worksop	4700	96713	3337	4404	33694	23059	33217	33294	2590
Retail Socs. Total for 1918	190466	2666054	147756	177958	1189261	734208	410134	1068104	49592
Productive Society—									
*Sheffield Trade Union									
Sheep Shear Manufg. ....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	28
District Total for 1918	190466	2666054	147756	177958	1189261	734208	410134	1068104	49592
Retail Societies Total for previous year (1917)	191562	2314899	135523	123792	869375	727420	426694	892562	57269
Productive Society Total for previous year (1917) ....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
District Total for previous year (1917) ..	191562	2314899	135523	123792	869375	727420	426694	892562	57269
WHOLESALE SOCIETY—									
Co-op. Wholesale Society	I. 1200	3195737	8701204	II. 8472698	9027243	3592703	4618	8018446	3277098
Wholesale Society Total for previous year (1917)	1192	2081133	3956192	8808230	6187145	2927350	4637	1396976	2188976

* No recent figures available. † 40 weeks. 1915 figures.

I. Societies representing 2,854,584 individual members.

II. Exclusive of 2,000 ordinary shares of £10 each (paid up) in the Manchester Ship Canal Company; 7,500 shares of £1 each (paid up) in the Gilsland Convalescent Home; 5,500 shares of £1 each (paid up) in the British Cotton-Growing Association; and £8,000 (paid up) in the North-Western Co-operative Convalescent Homes Association:

No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.						
Distributive.	Productive.	Distributive.	Productive.		Net Profit.	Interest on Share Capital.	Average Dividend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.		
		£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.
1	5	356		7682	473	39	1 5	..	..	..	1 17 6
2	950	383	84447	38140	2238164	241557	47137	1 9½	1850	9996	263 1 9
3	1066	184	88430	21831	1479501	168734	20777	2 0	330	504	189 8 11
4	100	8	8561	1058	171376	10624	1612	1 0	219	30	27 9 0
5	32	2	2518	269	69521	4695	1276	1 1	..	23	7 16 3
6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
7	34	..	1519	..	31828	2710	1048	3 4	62	103	4 10 0
8	371	90	35051	9192	657597	66884	9212	1 5	468	350	90 4 0
9	11	..	1135	..	26743	2121	308	1 4	..	15	20 3 7 0
10	68	7	5507	531	104206	8939	1020	1 5½	..	25	23 18 4 8
11	48	14	5470	597	117511	11134	1532	1 7	139	126	22 13 5 2
12	25	..	1910	..	39325	3267	354	1 4	..	10	19 5 9 8
13	16	6	1280	553	36392	3347	185	..	..	64	70 2 18 6
14	23	1	2560	52	51320	5205	863	1 8	..	82	.. 4 13 4
15	25	1	2041	144	71439	10170	1288	2 5½	..	38	.. 6 11 8
16	340	56	27225	5426	521995	54803	8540	1 9	..	458	.. 66 19 2
17	81	5	2237	445	42522	2406	416	1 2	..	31	.. 4 0 0
18	13	..	941	..	36476	3692	210	2 0	..	85	.. 3 3 0
19	8	..	860	..	22618	2016	172	1 7½	..	11	.. 1 19 2
20	26	3	1978	298	43474	3498	444	1 4	..	40	.. 4 7 1
21	176	10	12698	811	289121	23080	2250	1 9	..	15	.. 50 16 6
22	123	13	9792	1415	214248	20315	2051	1 8½	..	60	.. 28 12 10
23	588	95	52091	11547	830565	71366	9677	1 6	..	225	404 148 16 6
24	32	..	1700	..	54147	7957	826	2 6	..	47	.. 8 1 4
25	85	20	6912	2073	157663	16385	3053	1 5	..	5½	.. 16 2 7
26	5	..	351	..	7999	359	59	1 1½	..	6	.. 1 3 3
27	116	22	10163	1335	225139	25215	4247	1 8	..	159	256 24 8 6
4317		920	368642	95717	7548572	771042	118596	..	607	4197	11901 997 7 4
..	
4317		920	368642	95717	7548572	771042	118596	..	607	4197	11901 997 7 4
4346		885	298981	78797	7117933	710490	107454	..	681	4694	13082 940 10 2
..	
4346		885	298981	78797	7117933	710490	107454	..	681	4694	13082 940 10 2
3796		III. 20304	536323	III. 1992814	65167960	160538	154931	0 1	..	135	11382 600 0 0
3695		19082	425825	1558044	57710133	1315155	143703	..	..	..	5719 600 0 0

III. Including Purchasing Depôts, Shipping Departments, Creameries, Building Departments, &c.

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Mem- bers.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.					
		Share Capital.	Loans, includ- ing any Over- draft from Bank.	Re- serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Bldings, Machin- ery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.	
							House Prop- erty.	All other Invest- ments.		
SPECIAL SOCIETY— Co-operative Insurance .	2	£ 20000	£ 39099	£ 911756	£ ..	£ 23438	£ 55495	£ 939698	£ 32352	30
Special Society Total for pre- vious year (1917)	3	20000	35604	834088	..	24840	65088	813845	19700	
ISLE OF MAN— Retail Distrib Societies— *Foxdale	549	5188	..	471	2503	1110	..	1792	428	31
Laxey Industrial	258	2375	..	262	1693	221	..	1498	624	32
„ Old Equitable ...										33
District Total for 1918	807	7563	..	735	4496	1331	...	3200	1052	
Isle of Man Total for pre- vious year (1917).....	758	7087	..	646	3577	1381	..	2718	1426	

* No recent figures available.

A Including Insurance and Sinking Funds. C Premiums. E Premiums paid in advance.

	No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.						
	Distributive.	Productive.	Distributive.	Productive.		Net Profit.	Interest on Share Capital	Average Dividend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.		
										Educational Purposes.	Charitable Purposes.	Co-operative Union.
30	B.		£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.
	570	..	F 48830	..	G 587023	24412	2000	D 2 0	..	..	..	25 0 0
	480	..	37038	..	456304	28636	1000	..	..	..	..	25 0 0
31												
32	12	6	883	346	20443	1432	240	1 9	..	..	2	....
33	6	2	444	124	9700	813	102	2 0	..	..	..	....
	18	8	1327	470	30143	2245	343	..	..	..	2	....
	17	8	945	339	26439	2125	332	..	..	..	..	....

B Including 165 Full-time Agents. c Premiums. d On Members' Premiums.

f Excluding Agents' Commissions, £38,677.

SUMMARY OF THE

NAME OF DISTRICT.	No. of Societies.	No. of Members.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.				
			Share Capital.	Loans, including any Over-draft from Bank.	Reserve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Buildings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.
			£	£	£	£	£	House Property.	All other Investments.	£
No. 1—AIREDALE	48	162075	2756400	165045	145569	1193535	800195	372247	1119533	24175
„ 2—BOLTON	34	115043	2132427	216197	141075	635763	493803	535168	989557	14483
„ 3—CALDERDALE	26	47353	810636	57066	44090	302016	190623	177253	373123	14544
„ 4—CHESHIRE AND NORTH WALES ..	40	141107	1182100	170487	154917	724239	511093	77760	452036	8385
„ 5—DEWSBURY	28	76339	1512780	74186	74668	425170	295232	248346	892142	24355
„ 6—EAST YORKSHIRE ..	16	60329	572149	107973	40749	316327	234160	20736	259554	14313
„ 7—HUDDERSFIELD	43	52068	958269	127931	54681	353536	203619	134603	555279	39133
„ 8—MACCLESFIELD, CREWE AND DIST.	26	85220	1106014	188865	86785	519096	334000	149162	509275	63703
„ 9—MANCHESTER	34	148165	2372122	325688	171895	891796	741223	492681	987901	77293
„ 10—NORTH-EAST LANCASHIRE	34	98405	1976533	331017	90734	658889	546687	757764	583398	24256
„ 11—NORTH LANCASHIRE	15	69593	997665	69985	67900	311992	224547	171436	515907	7955
„ 12—NORTH LONSDALE ..	17	32559	555937	23072	51410	225733	129899	60005	284038	13487
„ 13—OLDHAM	18	70097	1494017	155333	82030	414241	245985	320004	849163	6277
„ 14—ROCHDALE	25	73234	1333404	102523	101047	349962	202616	270585	836169	8340
„ 15—ROSSENDALE	14	14072	257791	55543	23873	85270	58753	59000	154146	11191
„ 16—SOUTH YORKSHIRE ..	28	190466	2666054	147756	177958	1189261	734208	410134	1093104	49592
WHOLESALE SOCIETY	1	1200	3195737	8701204	8472008	9027243	3592703	4618	3013446	2277088
CO-OPERATIVE INSURANCE ..	1	2	20000	39099	911756	..	23438	55495	939698	32352
ISLE OF MAN	3	807	7563	..	733	4496	1331	..	3200	1052
Totals, 1918	451	1438174	25907598	11065020	5893868	17631390	9566115	4316997	14380669	2711979
Totals, 1917	453	1480707	23722608	6029757	5401635	12505820	9004328	4657420	11654895	2615297
Increase .....	..	7467	2184990	5035263	492233	5126070	561787	..	2675774	96682
Decrease	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	340423	..	..

Summary showing Members, Capital, Trade, &c.,

			£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Retail Distrib. Societies ..	421	1432433	22473073	2201592	1445140	5424853	5810787	4255001	10272208	284340
Distributive Federations ..	5	61	31461	118	1979	3729	1199	1714	33391	6703
Productive Societies	22	4129	185332	123007	61755	173808	197887	..	69954	108661
Supply Association	1	349	1995	..	1140	1757	101	169	1372	2830
Wholesale Society	1	1200	3195737	8701204	8472008	9027243	3592703	4618	3013446	2277088
Special Society	1	2	20000	39099	911756	..	23438	55495	939698	32352
Total for Section, 1918	451	1438174	25907598	11065020	5893868	17631390	9566115	4316997	14380669	2711979

Summary showing Members, Capital, Trade, &c., of
given for purposes of comparison. See also Introduction to

			£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Retail Distrib. Socs. (1917).	422	1424065	20474305	1919043	1184579	6140462	5888940	4585748	9340761	354032
Distributive Federations ..	5	60	29224	50	1767	3319	1202	1778	23466	8516
Productive Societies	23	5038	215951	118868	67836	172637	161895	..	73475	91843
Supply Association	1	349	1995	..	1140	1757	101	169	1372	2830
Wholesale Society	1	1192	2981133	3956192	3308230	6187145	2927350	4637	1396976	2188376
Special Society	1	3	20000	35604	834038	..	24840	65088	813845	19700
Total for Section (1917) ..	453	1480707	23722608	6029757	5401635	12505820	9004328	4657420	11654895	2615297

NORTH-WESTERN SECTION.

	No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.										
	Distributive.	Productive.	Distributive.	Productive.		Net Profit.	Interest on Share Capital.	Am't Paid as Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.							
			£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£ s. d.					
1	3565	1267	830630	120518	6046355	730593	104061	83	3760	12539	826 10 4					
2	2684	873	259450	85369	4712291	525140	75033	8	5795	3310	601 1 9					
3	786	379	82646	32651	1918200	208418	34641	38	1190	738	229 16 4					
4	3039	570	243397	61810	4726390	506153	47484	773	2927	1644	719 2 3					
5	1416	456	131085	37967	2815985	320286	64885	..	3150	1749	393 1 5					
6	1321	301	107890	28133	1948179	188797	26246	971	1841	896	286 13 5					
7	1067	423	106025	40011	2391868	258183	41608	..	900	1254	265 6 2					
8	1953	717	159191	69038	3372080	369663	45661	1104	2560	3302	444 6 11					
9	3642	1631	861709	163537	5977584	613538	101184	3609	5770	3457	722 3 8					
10	1974	1199	171493	105646	3686491	414709	80764	..	5442	2101	501 16 0					
11	1116	391	94769	36094	1903194	213963	39220	..	2144	1811	352 17 6					
12	725	257	68714	22309	1444558	145443	23090	3	297	910	168 18 2					
13	1515	473	146755	41822	2744291	292392	59438	..	5119	5389	359 9 1					
14	1119	546	111588	48956	2329898	281763	55165	..	2257	945	379 18 1					
15	264	111	22958	10124	590546	62480	10791	..	604	310	72 19 10					
16	4317	920	368642	95717	7548572	771042	118596	607	4197	11901	997 7 4					
17	3796	20304	536323	1992814	65167960	160538	154931	..	135	11882	600 0 0					
18	570	..	48890	..	587023	24412	2000	..	..	..	25 0 0		
19	18	8	1327	470	30143	2245	343	..	..	2	..			
						84887	30826	3353431	2992986	119941608	6089758	1085141	7196	48088	63580	7946 8 3
						84803	29987	2722898	2421254	109888043	7418502	974577	7175	50755	42509	7500 14 7
						84	839	630533	571732	10053565	110564	21	..	21071	445 13 8	
						1328744	2667

of various classes of Societies for Year 1918.

		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£ s. d.
30431	8700	2753575	835564	53085952	5826983	916826	3224	47953	51393	7258 14 0
15	16	1479	1399	121597	7637	1547	..	..	19	4 3 0
70	1806	12774	163209	953582	68990	9745	3972	..	786	58 11 3
5	..	450	..	25494	1198	92	..	..	..	..
3796	20304	536323	1992814	65167960	160538	154931	..	135	11832	600 0 0
570	..	48890	..	587023	24412	2000	..	..	..	25 0 0
34887	30826	3353431	2992986	119941608	6089758	1085141	7196	48088	63580	7946 8 3

various classes of Societies for previous Year (1917),

Statistics to tables showing increases of membership, &c.

		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£ s. d.
30528	8801	2245270	704490	50729048	6007845	818353	3187	50755	35958	6806 2 7
15	11	1221	960	129130	8632	1422	..	..	1	4 3 0
80	2093	13094	157760	846034	57035	10007	3968	..	831	65 9 0
5	..	450	..	25494	1198	92	..	..	..	..
3695	19082	425825	1658044	57710133	1315155	143703	..	..	5719	600 0 0
480	..	37038	..	456304	28636	1000	..	..	..	25 0 0
34803	29987	2722898	2421254	109888043	7418502	974577	7175	50755	42509	7500 14 7

SCOTTISH

RETURN OF TRADE, &c., of Co-operative Societies in the Counties of ABER-
DUMFRIES, EDINBURGH, ELGIN, FIFE, FORFAR, HADDINGTON, INVERNESS,
ROXBURGH, SELKIRK, and STIRLING, for 1918,

a These particulars are taken from our last year's return. b These particulars are taken
this office or

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Mem- bers.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.					
		Share Capital.	Loans, including any Over- draft from Bank.	Re- serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Bldings, Machin- ery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.	
							House Prop- erty.	All other Invest- ments.		
No. 1—AYRSHIRE DIST.—										
Retail Distrib. Societies—										
Ardrossan	2052	17528	4553	2445	7433	5811	1840	12359	3359	1
Auchinleck	1111	20756	6428	1313	10036	6218	532	11131	2541	2
Beith	899	17106	11011	2117	4988	3156	1400	21669	1250	3
Campbeltown	596	6268	70	422	3120	652	1904	1025	1141	4
Carrick (Maybole)	1073	16300	1858	952	5060	3828	264	10001	1240	5
Carronbridge	208	1136	114	213	685	..	..	866	128	6
Catrine	790	12972	113	1180	1989	2611	5591	5216	415	7
Creetown	97	324	200	169	259	405	..	269	111	8
Crosshouse (Kilmarnock)	1045	28204	1575	1638	4235	4429	503	24460	169	9
Dalbeattie	173	895	60	74	350	327	..	742	147	10
Dalmellington	640	13235	1615	725	3574	2597	..	11430	1033	11
Dalry	932	20331	3656	1117	6648	9089	811	12839	603	12
Darvel	1199	40901	4480	2674	7213	6247	6404	32037	649	13
Dreghorn (Irvine)	836	30229	69	1197	6422	3014	2045	22016	56	14
Dumfries & Maxwelltown	2839	37826	10536	2433	15500	14991	..	25051	4539	15
Fergushill	202	4178	511	355	735	140	..	4591	15	16
Galston	1365	53700	4225	3086	7149	9647	582	43236	4749	17
Glenbuck	140	3580	..	200	505	89	..	3908	..	18
Hurlford	1057	24891	3835	1413	6959	6906	3048	14142	1220	19
Irvine and Fullarton	1653	27009	9764	2586	8279	3970	584	29972	20	20
Kilbirnie	1997	48991	3430	6570	15727	9396	5937	29754	4701	21
Kilmarnock Equitable	12397	259291	1836	14639	59114	57981	26738	147167	1629	22
Kilwinning	1487	32031	4464	2568	8329	8323	4945	19428	924	23
Kirkconnel	373	4680	660	498	1896	1672	..	2099	433	24
Largs	101	461	885	128	393	376	..	659	114	25
Mauchline	616	15296	497	804	2463	897	3406	10564	861	26
Millport	121	978	265	118	307	..	..	1041	101	27
Muirkirk	766	17320	5991	1385	6647	2414	600	16353	1266	28
New Cumnock	806	14631	1777	965	10517	3522	950	3988	383	29
Newmilns	1180	31871	13377	1318	12117	9192	2694	24917	2124	30
Old Cumnock	581	6703	..	400	2782	1322	304	4337	645	31
Patna	456	11661	212	900	1740	1440	380	10004	1221	32
Stevenston	1539	26892	18232	2790	9880	5360	4620	32945	..	33
Stranraer	140	798	..	56	578	109	..	534	90	34
Troon	1349	31341	1795	1664	8778	6431	1830	19478	948	35
Wigtown	228	2111	263	91	1554	180	260	747	37	36
District Total for 1918	43044	881779	118357	31402	243061	189756	77782	610975	39210	
Totals, previous year (1917)	42062	764183	102619	54796	194781	194252	82090	511510	38980	

SECTION.

DEEN, ARGYLE, AYR, BANFF, BUTE, CAITHNESS, CLACKMANNAN, DUMBARTON, KINCARDINE, KINROSS, LANARK, LINLITHGOW, PEEBLES, PERTH, RENFREW, arranged in their respective Conference Districts.

from the Registrar's Return for 1917. c These societies have not made a return either to the Registrar.

No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.							Subscriptions.		
Distributive.	Productive.	Distributive.	Productive.		Net Profit.	Interest on Share Capital.	Average Dividend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Educational Purposes.	Charitable Purposes.	Co-operative Union.			
		£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.			
1	53	14	3739	2031	103725	10884	544	2 0	..	135	10 4 3			
2	36	26	2404	2229	69996	8176	875	2 11	..	57	5 12 8			
3	24	8	1716	900	54119	6601	631	2 21	..	58	4 12 6			
4	14	12	716	979	21107	2113	282	1 94	..	2	3 1 9			
5	35	13	2103	1180	52010	4986	666	1 9	..	20	5 8 0			
6	3	..	238	..	5270	342	57	2 2	..	..	..
7	13	5	981	701	24526	3212	519	2 0	..	23	4 1 11			
8	2	..	179	..	4191	355	15	2 0	..	5	0 11 6			
9	28	16	1986	1955	61924	8280	1032	2 31	..	115	5 6 0			
10	3	..	190	..	6713	383	39	1 01	..	3	..			
11	15	8	1095	748	42872	4799	550	2 0	..	29	3 5 8			
12	28	10	1884	1051	56438	6874	620	2 2	..	20	4 4 9			
13	34	22	2511	2048	58492	7939	1496	2 1	..	30	6 4 10			
14	24	18	1692	1793	59563	7353	1082	2 0	..	74	4 5 7			
15	71	18	5575	2391	125854	17775	1845	2 6	..	87	14 14 9			
16	7	2	399	287	14882	1733	185	2 0	..	33	0 18 9			
17	51	31	3296	2630	95272	13948	2144	2 6	..	4	6 18 9			
18	4	..	205	..	10890	1309	159	2 11	..	3	0 15 0			
19	24	27	2425	2401	67551	8893	951	2 4	..	107	5 7 10			
20	61	28	5071	2855	121994	12728	880	2 0	..	200	8 4 7			
21	106	44	9126	3966	175325	22213	1623	2 4	..	95	9 19 7			
22	368	149	25936	15009	554126	55364	11572	1 6	..	929	63 18 9			
23	45	26	3425	2997	98542	11288	1338	1 11	..	122	7 6 10			
24	10	..	836	..	23893	2578	153	1 11	..	11	1 14 2			
25	2	..	97	..	3270	285	22	1 9	10	..	..	
26	9	5	632	385	20443	2824	676	2 1	..	28	3 7 6			
27	3	..	209	..	4020	214	41	2 0	..	..	..
28	24	14	2052	1285	61570	8237	674	2 51	..	36	4 14 0			
29	23	23	1589	1562	48977	5092	611	2 11	..	24	4 0 9			
30	32	32	2189	2538	62114	7886	1195	2 1	..	58	6 5 4			
31	12	..	613	..	18799	2088	191	2 0	..	7	3 2 3			
32	16	5	1007	674	41685	5674	504	2 6	..	22	2 13 1			
33	44	15	2430	1831	93499	10460	1069	2 0	..	20	8 1 6			
34	7	..	343	..	6622	601	26	2 0	..	..	..
35	41	17	2821	2472	80926	9658	1454	2 2	..	59	6 15 5			
36	4	..	378	..	10727	1061	85	2 1	2	9	1 3 6			
1276		588	92088	58907	2355305	275112	35806	..	12	1834	1781	2 7 1 9		
1248		581	74592	49990	2173072	267601	30670	..	26	1709	1607	1 07 2 6		

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Mem- bers.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, includ- ing any Over- draft from Bank.	Re- serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Bldings, Machin- ery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.
							House Prop- erty.	All other Investments.	
No. 2—BORDER COUNTIES DISTRICT—									
Retail Distrib. Societies—		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Earlston	127	642	504	..	930	317	..	347	26
Galashiels United	2706	40554	4418	4989	15530	23396	693	18407	6175
†Gretna	1570	....	1976	..	7102	..	..	..	93
Hawick	1462	66386	10704	6145	38701	20403	..	34571	6633
Innerleithen	723	12875	3039	1871	7779	1946	1637	8840	1420
Jedburgh	415	2752	1267	166	1345	2285	..	1741	548
Kelso	426	2626	830	111	1303	1504	..	1718	300
Langholm	633	5306	2412	610	4620	2107	..	3366	1199
Peebles	1052	21223	2218	2273	8006	6409	..	14081	2095
Riccarton Junction	92	1268	..	34	605	9	..	832	310
Selkirk	1301	22947	4896	3355	13242	8007	2872	12007	2925
Walkerburn	371	9373	2821	1729	4584	2850	1262	7430	1488
District Total for 1918	13878	185952	35085	21283	103747	69233	6464	103340	23212
Totals, previous year (1917)	13916	177143	34110	20334	86037	72039	5836	107969	24153
No. 3—CENTRAL DIST.—									
Retail Distrib. Societies—									
Abbey Green	582	5673	..	689	4490	..	..	2403	1178
Auchenheath	644	7089	246	939	3825	1348	..	2586	1897
Bellshill and Mossend	3012	45275	7258	2595	27250	15082	2397	18021	3708
Blantyre	2441	38769	4606	4431	12529	20879	2967	17018	2563
Burnbank	2380	41119	7017	5100	12282	5455	1424	38569	1795
Calderbank	421	1501	7953	699	8220	937	200	6632	855
Carlisle	1301	24531	2975	1095	13892	4606	1059	14605	2487
Carstairs Junction	421	1740	5754	788	4820	1275	605	2400	795
Chapelhall	913	3268	20008	1360	7340	2296	542	15916	1225
Chapelton	122	741	..	120	912	29	11	377	81
Clarkston	203	3230	359	332	1220	365	252	2260	861
Cleland	762	6062	1148	720	3880	2599	732	1772	1089
Coalburn	1274	11157	3408	953	8138	4689	430	7620	1485
Coatbridge	10248	251145	3933	40690	93695	28298	25738	153758	36473
Crofthead	1224	38698	364	1995	13278	5500	2712	27547	..
Dalziel (Motherwell)	10996	27745	250736	21271	49410	15865	20645	240375	11405
Darnagail	119	831	174	395	676	87	..	965	720
Douglas Provident.....	384	4111	728	328	2289	1721	325	1226	80
" Water	345	7732	349	433	2874	982	220	5385	199
Dykehead and Shotts	2029	53478	4862	3854	16522	10724	3591	38188	486
*Forth Provident.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	21
*Glenboig .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	22
Glengowan	277	883	4207	449	2089	446	..	4114	150
Glespin	79	1156	25	98	619	..	..	841	7
Greengairs	158	1405	124	246	897	86	..	1053	278
Hamilton Central	3843	63441	9535	5015	24613	14199	5163	41017	3065
" Palace Colliery	508	3373	5351	800	2335	290	..	9044	543
Lanark	1680	33705	2872	2775	11885	10540	900	19392	1068
Larkhall	1967	54970	7751	2785	10261	5474	1012	49190	4108
" Victualling	2012	18762	38977	4488	18042	10760	427	30725	12243
aLaw	385	11042	60	330	2283	1037	..	9531	714
Leadhills	200	1125	..	578	1273	277	..	625	315
Moffat Mills	128	591	2135	138	1296	393	327	1092	505
Newarthill	449	1144	7847	388	3110	1228	..	5661	484
Newmains & Cambusnethn	1698	27316	1595	4561	14515	8027	1012	11190	3616
Overtown	578	12270	757	639	6225	2878	781	5477	1474
Plains	244	3007	1426	235	1952	239	..	3840	65
Strathaven	641	5244	12941	1182	3901	2187	192	13923	275
Wanlockhead	206	3282	53	153	1443	879	294	1668	227
Wishaw	4301	90089	9317	8482	30853	16915	3966	69650	5259
Retail Socs. Total for 1918	59175	906700	126851	122129	421274	198592	77924	882556	103778

* No recent figures available.

† Branch of S.C.W.S.

No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.			Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.								
Distributive.	Productive.	Distributive.	Productive.	Net Profit.		Interest on Share Capital	Average Dividend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.					
									Educational Purposes.	Charitable Purposes.	Co-operative Union.			
			£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.		
1	3	2	205	196	5049	19	29	1 0	..	..	..	1 7 1
2	86	44	6554	3821	146970	19714	1620	2 7	..	22	63	14 1 8		
3	21	..	2573	..	45864	3373	..	1 9	..	..	..	..
4	124	89	10764	7299	226572	34683	3005	2 10	..	53	242	23 5 11		
5	18	14	1431	1168	43219	7199	607	3 13	..	..	36	3 12 6
6	8	3	508	242	10316	917	107	2 0	..	..	?	1 13 10
7	6	3	353	371	10215	1280	117	2 73	..	..	..	2 4 6
8	18	6	1454	623	37304	5404	261	3 0	..	..	22	3 6 8
9	29	12	1825	1362	55134	8835	771	3 0	..	..	52	4 10 0
10	2	..	178	..	6037	509	47	2 2	..	..	2	..
11	47	28	3590	1916	73575	11342	1056	2 103	..	15	56	6 15 0		
12	12	18	1073	1678	31260	5087	396	3 0	..	..	20	1 16 8
			374	219	30508	18676	691515	98422	8016	..	90	495	62 13 10	
			381	231	26352	16925	662412	99099	7772	..	104	566	61 17 4	
1	14	..	1081	..	37157	4806	180	2 5	..	..	10	2 15 0
2	23	..	1659	..	39031	3479	238	1 83	..	..	41	3 8 0
3	89	33	6893	4067	196436	21873	2100	2 0	..	120	280	14 14 1		
4	107	44	6650	3848	186574	21035	1550	2 0	..	280	439	12 10 0		
5	97	27	7030	1964	194622	21967	1732	2 0	..	204	204	11 18 0		
6	13	1	1077	131	50490	5740	78	2 2	..	..	49	2 4 2
7	28	20	2506	1251	85705	9477	861	2 0	..	11	71	6 12 11		
8	15	14	1059	1079	37839	3129	78	1 73	..	..	21	2 3 0
9	33	4	2698	475	74785	7027	126	1 10	..	..	97	4 10 0
10	2	..	116	..	4683	379	27	1 83	..	..	4	..
11	8	..	305	..	17099	2215	111	2 6	..	..	69	..
12	20	17	1230	1808	50534	4900	232	1 10	..	..	4	3 18 2
13	31	25	2648	2429	63124	5226	414	1 10	..	..	23	4 2 10
14	494	184	35232	18301	879232	115792	8999	2 3	..	1018	809	52 8 8		
15	33	22	2654	2364	88522	13137	1668	2 63	..	62	143	6 4 3		
16	500	171	39833	17496	876566	102994	1355	2 3	..	200	1820	56 13 10		
17	4	..	371	..	13321	1441	20	2 23	..	..	3	0 12 9
18	11	5	670	730	22823	2410	167	2 0	..	..	7	1 16 5
19	10	2	777	503	23279	2291	351	1 73	..	..	22	1 17 4
20	87	62	5522	5176	182694	26689	2355	2 7	..	..	137	10 11 0
21	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
22	7	2	675	40	26758	2903	39	2 4	..	..	17	1 10 9
23	2	..	136	..	5221	635	52	2 33	..	..	5	..
24	4	1	338	104	15207	1700	68	2 13	..	..	23	0 15 10
25	157	62	10053	4378	270543	30078	2812	2 0	..	279	240	19 14 10		
26	21	1	1394	117	51517	7227	307	2 8	..	..	92	2 12 6
27	66	34	3351	2717	86198	10969	1445	2 3	..	220	102	8 13 10		
28	56	36	4594	2629	137091	18297	2477	2 3	..	120	68	10 7 2		
29	52	65	4169	5679	166518	21949	320	2 43	..	15	135	10 8 5		
30	12	..	1212	..	33908	3305	458	2 1	..	..	6	..
31	5	..	403	..	12327	1105	51	1 9	..	..	4	1 0 8
32	4	..	312	..	11620	830	18	1 7	..	..	4	0 14 0
33	12	6	1068	274	35424	3996	68	2 2	62	..	19	2 6 4		
34	32	37	5712	3578	145036	18535	1069	2 5	..	11	63	6 5 4		
35	22	10	1354	987	48612	5975	477	2 3	..	..	60	2 18 2
36	7	..	412	..	19975	2201	131	..	6	..	17	1 4 11		
37	18	11	1170	751	29552	3807	650	2 1	..	6	41	3 7 2		
38	5	1	513	52	14860	1303	124	1 113	..	..	3	1 11 0
39	148	97	9913	9003	311236	42632	3406	2 6	..	289	270	20 16 8		
40	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
			2299	994	166790	91931	4546119	553454	36614	..	68	2835	5422	293 8 0

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Mem- bers.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans includ- ing au- overdraft from Bank.	Re- serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Bldgs., Machin- ery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Socie- ty or Goods.
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
CENTRAL DISTRICT—Con.									
Productive Societies—									
Chapelhall Fed. Baking..	7	1030	16948	1199	2274	4099	221	11670	942
Hamilton Baking	7	8353	56219	3387	5743	7915	658	54527	1369
Produc. Socs. Total for 1918	14	9383	73167	4586	8017	12014	879	66197	2311
District Total for 1918	59189	916083	500018	126715	429291	210606	78803	948753	106089
<i>Retail Societies Total for previous year (1917)</i>	57824	815476	388205	100072	316512	212348	76696	791761	89075
<i>Productive Societies Total for previous year (1917)</i>	14	9233	62884	4033	5865	12887	909	56789	648
<i>District Total for previous year (1917)</i>	57838	824709	451089	104105	322377	225235	77605	848550	89723
No. 4—EAST OF SCOTLAND DISTRICT—									
Retail Distrib. Societies —									
Armadales	1590	49850	1755	6008	8776	6870	3839	46450	1625
Bathgate	3734	64345	24	3596	23482	12582	8649	33098	4875
Broxburn	2490	35871	4196	3530	16818	7876	1711	18299	5735
Edinburgh St. Cuthbert's	54868	676192	45247	230225	396648	195093	42000	573558	53857
Gavieside	97	1061	47	330	795			812	169
Gorebridge	1823	39947	798	3111	13006	13285	3005	16756	3425
Haddington	1234	8865	191	3040	4800	6660	2350	2449	1430
Hillwood	1791	25074	6148	11477	9400	9549	4833	19652	3374
Leith	9819	125178	26548	8208	51694	47116	21325	72421	5971
Musselburgh & Fisherrow	6758	109931	14759	29932	39442	36417	7237	98427	16684
Penicuik	2447	46509	3996	5101	14731	16751	4339	28515	4823
Portobello	1477	19870	2419	1972	8561	5896	6760	6553	2011
Prestonpans	1014	9098	958	4500	4843	4429	621	9151	1425
Rosewell	363	495	—	770	1645			1351	88
Tranent	3134	58114	10453	15482	41001	17811	22469	22156	1616
† West Barns	582		2298		4126	1928			602
West Benhar	1736	52433	940	2703	15241	10397	3234	33700	1031
West Calder	8850	174669	9292	22834	48140	19037	7703	146430	8180
Retail Socs. Total for 1918	103807	1497502	130069	372822	708149	411607	140075	1129778	116921
Productive Society—									
Edinburgh Printing	150	10300	7301	3000	2073	13929	..	271	5280
District Total for 1918	103957	1507502	137370	375822	705222	425536	140075	1130049	122201
<i>Retail Societies Total for previous year (1917)</i>	104708	1467703	114722	351647	553794	465999	190535	1078963	116663
<i>Productive Society Total for previous year (1917)</i>	151	10000	6846	3000	1019	14168	..	334	4477
<i>District Total for previous year (1917)</i>	104859	1477703	121568	354647	555713	480167	190535	1079297	121140
No. 5—FALKIRK DIST.—									
Retail Distrib. Societies—									
Bo'ness	1757	35743	6248	2198	13905	13312	5005	15117	565
Bonnybridge	1240	25687	5305	2136	8545	6116	2993	20579	416
Camelon	1836	28038	6764	3016	18308	12639	3850	9172	1750
Carron	780	11429	3438	1955	6903	1780	575	9069	1489
Carronhall and Kinnaird.	173	2435	153	170	1703	4	..	1745	499
Condorrat	287	2935	59	428	1102	169	..	2179	434
Cumbernauld	363	3527	1322	464	1710	462	404	3986	117
Denny and Dunipace ...	1074	25258	2773	3028	7856	4224	4126	18433	741
Grahamston & Bainsford	3591	56827	5429	4665	30529	18256	2944	23886	3560
Grangemouth	1659	49306	1854	4988	11909	13990	1740	28404	4250

	No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.						
	Distributive.	Productive.	Distributive.	Productive.		Net Profit.	In-terest on Share Capital	Aver-age Divi-dend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.		
										Educa-tional Pur-poses.	Chari-table Pur-poses.	Co-operative Union.
			£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.
41	11	20	2138	2642	48835	5815	51	2 10	..	..	107.	....
42	28	55	2093	7587	92834	7132	418	1 3½	..	..	151	2 0 0
	39	75	4231	10229	141669	12947	469	..	..	..	258	2 0 0
	2338	1069	171021	102160	4687788	566401	37083	..	68	2835	5680	295 8 0
	2173	945	135054	76103	4003236	498767	33883	..	65	2638	4656	269 17 5
	36	69	2770	8436	134924	11412	461	..	228	..	130	2 0 0
	2209	1014	137824	84539	4138160	510179	34344	..	293	2638	4786	271 17 5
1	65	36	4676	3268	139012	21815	1571	2 10	..	127	142	8 3 6
2	98	66	8698	4570	229088	34648	2567	2 10	..	30	107	19 6 2
3	91	40	6333	3933	175404	26805	1340	2 10	..	109	100	12 14 2
4	2194	899	156103	91814	2745426	487829	23252	3 5	..	490	1391	289 9 7
5	2	..	168	..	6360	1023	39	3 3½	..	..	2	0 10 0
6	72	37	4027	3019	122482	20575	1285	3 1½	..	..	70	9 7 1
7	30	23	1857	1602	52081	5909	500	2 2	..	..	45	0 10 3
8	61	20	4816	2613	109566	16679	1059	2 11	..	..	11	..
9	302	115	22817	10845	439166	70737	5468	3 2	..	120	533	51 14 0
10	325	128	22637	11103	461219	78481	3474	3 2	..	100	151	35 19 4
11	91	53	5516	4160	153115	25228	1609	3 1½	..	..	..	12 15 5
12	49	29	3257	2736	94661	15768	698	3 3	..	..	27	7 11 0
13	28	11	1909	1014	56414	8896	328	3 2	..	..	25	5 0 0
14	10	2	850	416	25770	4604	24	4 0	..	..	..	..
15	124	118	7554	9388	249659	36302	2159	3 0	..	50	81	17 17 1
16	18	..	1688	..	23522	1847	..	1 7½	..	..	..	..
17	62	23	5584	2729	156318	24278	2311	2 9	..	..	83	8 18 4
18	237	111	20015	10501	560493	84733	6524	2 10	..	320	264	44 18 0
	3859	1711	278505	163211	5800356	966157	54208	..	..	1346	3632	530 13 11
19	..	80	....	6852	15313	536	450	..	..	..	17	1 5 0
	3859	1791	278505	170063	5815669	966693	54658	..	..	1346	3049	531 18 11
	3738	1664	235193	138431	5206122	961768	53357	..	..	1419	3807	471 17 4
	..	76	....	6000	12400	490	400	..	..	..	..	1 5 0
	3738	1740	235193	134431	5218522	962258	53757	..	..	1419	3807	473 2 4
1	33	31	2954	4132	98935	12614	1650	2 2	..	8	19	9 0 2
2	60	27	4531	2597	119002	15999	1168	2 7	..	22	100	6 7 4
3	71	40	5323	3073	131575	17240	1147	2 4	..	136	151	9 2 11
4	21	18	1676	1633	67563	9447	449	2 10	..	..	40	4 1 2
5	3	..	194	..	12857	1991	92	3 0	..	..	2	..
6	7	..	426	..	16868	1371	111	1 6	..	..	16	1 10 5
7	6	2	506	21	22124	2076	130	2 6½	..	23	16	1 19 0
8	44	19	3984	2250	95016	10809	1162	2 0½	..	..	134	5 9 11
9	133	47	9189	3458	220617	28895	2399	2 4½	..	134	267	18 9 9
10	64	47	4711	3274	105532	13441	1970	2 0½	..	32	75	8 11 6

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Members.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, including any Over-draft from Bank.	Reserve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Buildings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.
							House Prop. erty.	All other Invest-ments.	
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
FALKIRK DISTRICT—Con.									
Kilsyth	1950	19235	9497	2782	12003	7922	684	16861	911
Larbert	971	23064	3542	1023	7560	3731	2801	16869	63
Laurieston	525	9802	170	382	3471	892	236	6563	605
Longcroft	890	14978	3056	1079	8310	3934	1587	6531	1763
Redding	3535	109812	1510	6722	17381	549	833	120471	11061
Skinflats	228	12817	101	463	1030	510	..	12702	503
Slamannan	1206	2902	24148	2165	11631	1018	..	22198	2246
Stenhousemuir Equitable	1436	25863	1000	2609	6501	8795	1564	15529	595
Retail Socs. Total for 1918	23501	459458	76369	40278	171347	98303	29381	349094	31568
Productive Societies—									
Bainsford & Grahamston	4689	42854	987	2812	1379	11624	1880	34916	2057
Baking	347	2626	202	263	305	1052	..	1683	613
Carronshore Baking									
Produc. Socs. Total for 1918	5036	45480	1189	3075	1684	12676	1880	36599	2670
District Total for 1918	28537	504938	77558	43348	173031	110979	31261	385693	34238
Retail Societies Total for previous year (1917)	22948	414445	66033	35002	134305	101184	30459	310108	30460
Productive Societies Total for previous year (1917)	4864	43524	1170	2835	2695	13079	2324	31898	2606
District Total for previous year (1917)	27812	457969	67203	37837	137000	114263	32783	342006	33066
No. 6—FIFE AND KINROSS DISTRICT—									
Retail Distrib. Societies—									
Auchtermuchty	622	4772	119	699	2981	1457	178	1879	452
Buckhaven	2508	47145	1603	3702	15956	21432	1926	17501	2620
Burntisland	801	13305	3438	1238	3905	1415	4190	8979	1460
Coatdown of Wemyss	360	10462	928	446	3136	1650	706	6988	741
Cowdenbeath	2376	57886	933	6233	19026	12830	2272	37188	..
Cupar (Fife)	501	5014	591	557	2932	2305	..	1420	642
Dunfermline	13130	214107	..	24112	88782	126473	..	51690	..
Dysart	2210	31517	733	2767	12448	11257	200	19457	2401
East Wemyss	1243	29432	62	887	11481	3823	1920	17569	1919
Falkland	130	664	..	151	584	400	..	478	121
Freuchie Reform	154	672	..	322	668	246	..	557	47
Guardbridge	660	6635	73	1300	3365	2073	352	3406	624
Kelty	2350	61980	646	6378	26301	13412	647	38763	2063
Kettle	423	2035	572	548	948	..	..	2988	103
Kingsseat	272	4625	904	329	2368	1192	347	3113	166
Kinross and Vicinity	315	2008	38	325	1146	509	..	1231	104
Lassodie	222	4338	112	296	3100	12	..	3831	315
Leslie	276	5294	..	520	1759	237	..	4775	..
„ and District	1142	26468	204	1821	7988	7094	2900	15870	..
Leven (Reform)	2259	44428	790	1599	18030	26383	1350	12913	2235
Lochgelly	4212	100210	885	11195	38369	17448	1387	60811	10463
Markinch	2055	45573	784	1714	16149	12600	941	28832	2099
Methill	1109	15929	7671	856	9952	10844	4130	3431	1654
Newburgh and District	253	2778	1629	361	1068	694	430	3081	99
Pathhead & Sinclairtown	5817	87459	4128	6655	30440	43926	2340	44370	..
St. Andrews	375	2316	41	359	1660	..	..	1748	352
Townhill	714	10227	604	1765	4612	4425	1920	3324	159
West Wemyss	302	9852	643	502	3349	826	655	6383	872
Retail Socs. Total for 1918	46791	847131	28041	77640	333403	324963	28791	402576	31721

No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.			Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.							
Distributive.	Productive.		Distributive.	Productive.		Net Profit.	Interest on Share Capital	Average Dividend per s.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.			
										Educational Purposes.	Charitable Purposes.	Co-operative Un.on.	
			£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.	
11	50	40	3397	3365	136130	22036	745	3 0	..	..	117	9 17 11
12	32	11	2388	1232	71215	9576	1040	2 6	..	..	62	4 10 6
13	15	1	1408	26	39922	5123	413	2 4	..	..	14	2 2 0
14	29	6	1742	743	65092	7891	619	2 4½	..	..	46	4 16 0
15	100	32	7656	3765	297426	54103	3721	3 4½	..	30	18 4 8		
16	4	..	470	..	20022	3091	606	2 6	..	..	9	1 1 0
17	40	20	3268	2244	94207	11400	137	2 5½	..	..	6	7 7 7
18	58	31	3662	2881	99006	11938	1136	2 2½	..	33	51	7 8 9	
770			372	57485	35294	1713109	239941	18695	418	1119	119 0 7
19	47	57	3599	7339	99026	13876	1587	2 8	..	66	131	10 0 0	
20	2	4	214	464	6226	1227	89	..	2	..	2	....
49			61	3813	7803	105252	15103	1676	..	2	66	133	10 0 0
819			433	61298	43097	1818361	255044	20371	..	2	484	1252	129 0 7
742			342	46324	27040	1462896	211342	16799	337	827	93 19 11
47			61	3105	6820	106900	15117	1608	65	130	10 0 0
789			403	49429	33860	1569796	226459	18407	402	957	103 19 11
1	13	4	805	510	20462	2274	230	2 3	..	17	2	3 2 6	
2	71	47	4410	3773	126700	18763	1794	3 1	..	93	113	13 0 5	
3	21	12	1758	784	41502	3670	480	1 10	..	65	44	3 19 0	
4	10	4	630	373	21476	2505	413	2 1	..	..	4	1 16 6
5	82	42	6058	3581	162379	23010	2623	2 5	..	212	128	11 12 4	
6	9	5	529	616	16602	1994	221	2 9	..	6	4	2 12 1	
7	407	195	26984	18621	676745	86927	7402	2 3	..	565	267	64 19 8	
8	77	29	5151	2856	125846	19235	1338	3 0	..	35	68	11 9 1	
9	29	27	1952	2807	78925	12096	1158	3 4	..	..	46	6 3 6
10	2	2	174	154	5243	605	32	2 9	..	..	..	....
11	3	..	196	..	4772	616	33	3 2	..	..	..	0 12 0
12	16	6	923	489	28540	3777	315	2 10	..	..	19	3 10 10
13	89	59	6818	4932	194307	27963	2527	2 7	..	247	115	12 10 0	
14	7	2	432	93	11534	1710	91	2 10	..	..	2	2 4 2
15	9	5	627	816	20407	3412	193	3 0½	..	..	49	1 7 0
16	5	..	323	..	11441	1132	99	1 10	..	..	2	....
17	8	..	626	..	24042	3601	197	2 9	..	..	33	1 3 1
18	4	..	282	..	9119	1841	219	3 6	..	..	12	1 11 3
19	33	20	1916	1662	59018	9779	1084	3 6	..	15	31	6 2 4	
20	62	48	3948	3396	1228346	20278	1842	3 5	..	40	84	11 11 9	
21	166	80	10852	7378	306672	43306	3264	2 6	..	269	103	21 5 1	
22	73	50	4858	3200	139918	24035	1893	2 3½	..	212	..	10 12 6	
23	36	29	2041	2102	62696	8811	684	2 10	..	96	14	5 9 4	
24	4	1	290	50	8050	1222	134	2 9	..	3	7	1 6 5	
25	223	90	15566	8121	295624	40941	3954	2 6	..	260	96	30 1 4	
26	6	3	443	316	9759	260	108	2 6	..	4	4	1 19 10	
27	20	11	1616	1080	44940	6707	451	2 8½	..	55	..	....
28	9	2	513	410	18653	2771	424	2 9½	..	8	28	1 11 3	
1494			773	100721	68120	2648218	373251	33183	2202	1275	231 13 5

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Members.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, including any Over-draft from Bank.	Reserve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Bldings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
FIFE & KINROSS DIST.—Con.									
Productive Societies:—									
Burntisland Bread	276	384	169	1000	197	945	500	8	29
Kettle Baking	583	1522	25	263	379	680	..	1138	35
Newburgh and Mount Pleasant Baking	377	739	..	100	154	238	..	1297	6
Produc. Socs. Total for 1918	1186	2645	194	1363	730	1863	500	2443	41
District Total for 1918	47977	849776	28235	79003	334133	320826	29291	405019	31762
<i>Retail Societies Total for previous year (1917)</i>	45236	752429	24149	70271	250405	269004	28214	425556	34213
<i>Productive Societies Total for previous year (1917)</i>	1110	2550	196	1343	680	1974	500	2074	72
<i>District Total for previous year (1917)</i>	46346	754979	24345	71614	251085	270978	28714	427630	34285
No. 7.—GLASGOW & SUBS.—									
Retail Distrib. Societies—									
Annesland	693	14660	2881	1353	4412	4703	..	10406	1368
Avonbank (Rutherglen) ..	3024	48068	6401	3229	4443	6001	7834	42619	3108
Blairdardie	88	890	30	85	139	90	94	767	54
Bridgeton Old Victualling	1044	3132	..	8600	5086	315	3000	7010	1288
Cadder	490	5140	463	568	4343	343	..	3064	806
Cambuslang	2412	47182	7267	4045	16878	11003	4977	31546	..
Chryston	141	1153	700	27	990	587	506	338	277
Clydebank	9659	171105	81498	17254	116617	64120	19434	82474	15217
Cowlairs	11299	176661	51611	25711	96008	27604	10006	177198	14613
Dalmuir	1194	8760	10665	392	5486	3124	7582	5159	1454
Dumbarton Equitable	5150	123346	38429	5460	42722	18678	..	111383	7482
Duntocher and Hardgate ..	600	4734	5318	1068	4020	1247	1280	5386	710
East Kilbride	198	2627	811	663	673	700	989	1963	90
Gilbertfield	1059	13421	16231	2329	6628	4152	2075	22891	..
Glasgow-D'py & Furnish.	4508	85416	137015	10847	155840	67032	14440	9566	5117
„ Eastern	14172	76584	78201	4792	66226	16470	12812	89105	1154
„ Kinning Park	25058	239448	74183	44578	136447	67569	13457	209447	15963
„ London Road	2683	5688	21322	2094	5310	2990	660	22146	831
„ Progress	6353	98082	9237	3466	26585	1068	..	83238	5057
„ St. George	20500	56000	199558	31250	172116	45546	25811	131782	6795
„ St. Rollox	6488	43924	23304	10560	14277	15674	..	64042	2701
Kirkintilloch	2008	49228	1380	3666	25075	9977	4411	19860	1858
Lennox (Dumbarton)	2411	31878	7919	2143	20225	10166	1874	10953	5666
Lennoxtown	452	3195	1822	739	1569	1960	695	3241	340
Milngavie	896	11267	955	1344	4201	3197	..	7587	1261
Newton	346	5379	2424	485	2190	1228	484	5353	60
Rutherglen Vict'g & Bkg.	553	1874	997	1362	993	300	300	2990	1360
Shettleston	7200	72512	68243	11517	43413	9613	12119	99936	597
Stonefield	330	5027	596	1050	2569	1762	..	2256	1106
Tollcross	1780	6035	32487	2997	6035	8156	5480	25720	..
Uddington	2435	9428	55038	4186	15436	7111	3165	44416	4824
Vale of Leven (Alexand'ra)	5630	139371	8675	12965	56818	24338	15198	83583	350
Retail Socs. Total for 1918	140354	1561215	945662	220885	1008870	426818	168683	1418025	101511
Productive Societies—									
Glasgow-Civic Press	155	1775	508	2338	1209	730	..	1454	2283
„ Scottish Newspr	470	217	157	214	..	..	..	1389	921
„ United Baking	4211	464947	86031	122260	42828	181090	20410	141545	28083
Produc. Socs. Total for 1918	436	469929	86696	124812	44047	181820	20410	444388	31287
District Total for 1918	141290	2028154	1032358	345697	1052917	608638	189093	1862413	132798

	No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.						
	Distributive.	Productive.	Distributive.	Productive.		Net Profit.	Interest on Share Capital.	Average Dividend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.		
										Educational Purposes.	Charitable Purposes.	Co-operative Union.
			£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£	s. d.
29	3	3	120	437	3349	147	64	..	..	1	..	..
30	5	6	320	520	7346	814	67	2 2	..	4	2 16	6
31	..	4	..	403	3205	673	38	4 4	..	..	....	..
	8	13	440	1360	13900	1634	169	..	..	5	2 16	6
	1502	786	101161	69480	2662118	374885	33352	..	..	2202	1280	234 9 9
	1387	744	84479	56112	2393825	387656	30669	..	..	2381	1554	215 8 4
	4	13	465	1194	13921	1266	154	..	..	6	2 16	6
	1391	757	84944	57306	2407746	388992	30823	..	..	2381	1560	218 4 10
1.	36	4	2622	452	53907	5120	514	1 8	..	58	26	3 13 3
2	106	1	9941	156	195270	22689	1885	2 0 1	..	329	196	15 18 8
3	1	..	161	..	9281	535	36	1 11 1/4	..	..	..	....
4	27	15	2474	1841	67940	5486	..	1 5	..	..	18	....
5	24	2	1298	24	39297	3542	162	1 9 1/2	..	..	21	2 11 0
6	96	47	7805	3633	177090	17533	1981	1 7	..	146	146	12 1 11
7	4	..	366	..	7565	495	42	1 2 1/2	..	..	1	....
8	507	118	47993	11535	878917	70788	7173	1 4 1/2	..	612	417	48 6 3
9	563	156	46259	14834	846898	95602	8160	1 11	..	1564	415	57 9 7
10	38	5	3959	322	87962	9159	285	2 0	..	79	90	5 15 11
11	205	73	15028	7531	322189	39319	4642	2 0 1/2	..	367	245	25 19 6
12	22	6	2088	812	54301	5101	153	1 9 1/4	..	20	32	3 2 11
13	5	1	362	83	10797	965	97	1 7 1/2	..	14	..	0 18 9
14	54	4	4907	363	114155	13004	566	2 1	..	133	124	5 8 9
15	249	222	26818	19400	410973	21222	4270	2 9	4210	..	262	14 0 0
16	333	67	32623	4900	594769	57413	2380	1 6	2419	713	713	71 13 8
17	938	147	63456	14168	1265991	158009	9400	1 8	5548	2356	1346	130 5 11
18	71	4	4810	486	117779	10181	284	1 7	216	138	123	13 19 3
19	85	58	7652	6635	233937	8057	4218	..	..	..	130	27 6 0
20	885	115	74255	10199	1073394	100257	2410	1 7	6093	1850	190	109 2 1
21	185	36	15131	2986	274145	27797	1744	1 9	..	440	172	31 17 8
22	160	45	9151	4600	169903	17050	2162	1 9	..	65	116	10 17 8
23	96	32	6573	3155	146190	16513	1252	1 11 1/4	..	..	68	12 10 10
24	14	6	923	396	29569	3217	110	2 1	..	2	19	2 4 8
25	34	4	2434	589	55413	5307	279	1 9 1/4	..	77	54	4 11 8
26	8	2	978	221	29026	3506	239	2 3	..	8	47	1 18 3
27	16	7	959	634	39201	5127	19	..	..	..	34	....
28	284	41	22744	3835	421192	47773	3328	2 0	..	489	245	37 16 4
29	11	..	1047	..	32649	3632	200	1 6 1/2	..	7	23	1 14 4
30	52	19	4996	1584	119856	12689	302	2 0	..	..	..	9 3 5
31	93	50	7406	3734	187686	22107	2720	2 0	..	..	272	12 8 3
32	210	88	18037	8780	404176	49082	5424	2 1 1/4	..	420	402	28 6 8
	5412	1375	445256	127988	8471418	858277	66937	..	18486	9887	5956	701 3 2
33	..	23	..	2702	6401	361	89	..	..	..	17	....
34	3	2	51	360	6811	486	11	..	..	..	20	1 0 0
35	433	1138	62187	112322	1265436	87424	11549	1 0	8610	1008	836	25 0 0
	436	1163	62238	115354	1278648	88271	11649	..	8610	1008	873	26 0 0
	5848	2538	507494	243272	9750066	946548	78586	..	27096	10895	6829	727 3 2

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Mem- bers.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, including any Over- draft from Bank.	Re- serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Buildings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.	Owing to the Society for Goods.	
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
GLASGOW AND SUBS.— <i>Con.</i>									
Retail Societies Total for previous year (1917)	138420	1405529	771815	187285	718504	438290	169443	1288537	104992
Productive Societies Total for previous year (1917)	479	228088	2834231	18105	39694	208850	16010	372823	26090
District Total for previous year (1917)	138899	1633617	1055233	305390	758198	647140	185453	1661360	131082
No. 8—PERTH, FORFAR, & ABERDEEN DISTRICT—									
Retail Distrib Societies—									
Abernethy	205	190	25	..	170	320	..	457	43
Aberuthven	78	130	..	117	199	..	..	428	83
Arbroath Equitable	1977	25008	..	1640	8725	7260	1672	12411	2258
" Friendly Coal	2503	2340	..	1093	783	780	350	311	2507
" High Street	2198	18474	8465	580	12904	12416	4000	3003	3325
" West Port	2421	20929	..	166	13528	5040	3456	4432	1429
Auchterarder Feus	315	5083	..	290	1533	782	752	3020	386
" Provident	258	2130	..	224	1238	367	..	1902	357
† Banff	104	..	211	..	602	39	..	..	18
Blairgowrie	364	1544	654	340	1711	964	..	1061	370
Brechin United	3626	43618	2535	2661	11742	12847	5193	21794	3651
† Buckie	508	..	884	..	2408	1380	..	..	118
Carnoustie Association	755	5913	2918	307	3795	3314	186	3492	765
" Equitable	486	1349	3089	..	1313	3475	..	311	823
Crief	187	706	2254	127	539	2890	..	340	88
Don (Port Elphinstone)	1116	6313	..	1465	4432	4754	..	706	420
Dundee (City of)	2025	13223	2859	2635	16122	2873	498	2948	3105
" Coal Supply	2661	4628	..	449	650	1620	..	4721	455
" Eastern	8214	90263	..	24350	66087	12460	17075	26203	16165
† Elgin	430	..	299	..	647	94	..	..	101
a Forfar Coal	1260	1187	..	113	271	263	..	702	927
" East Port Saving	297	511	846	130	931	470	650	820	15
" Free Trade Saving	427	688	1874	..	1453	1541	..	602	48
" High Street	264	393	1904	9	690	635	782	476	58
" Northern . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	25
" Victoria Coal	974	884	..	105	253	185	..	419	912
a " West Port	267	383	..	..	676	80	..	776	83
" West Town . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	28
† Forres	300	..	618	..	688	75	..	..	87
Fraserburgh	474	3265	1420	182	1540	2241	1405	904	584
Inverness	476	1286	91	151	662	40	..	1268	243
Kirriemuir	1350	10948	..	..	8843	3083	..	3168	1046
" Coal	483	455	..	34	121	..	..	452	580
Monifieth Coal	158	172	..	49	24	35	..	138	149
Montrose B'k'g & Grocery	1464	1774	..	750	1627	1940	..	428	280
Muthill	125	246	..	204	508	..	..	500	82
Northern, Aberdeen	31045	165161	45114	24170	184691	107679	7500	84348	1189
Perth (City of)	7634	117528	41065	15875	99735	55154	14582	33186	38
" Coal	3227	5279	18	1513	218	2122	474	4998	297
† Peterhead	392	..	981	..	1523	..	..	..	13
Strathisla	501	1571	452	169	1518	804	..	210	493
Thurso	1176	10357	..	1817	5374	2792	..	6753	1165
Wick & Pulteney Town	446	1644	1000	94	915	781	1290	572	234
Retail Socs. Total for 1918	83141	565579	118176	81809	461339	253595	59853	228260	44882
Productive Society— Auchterarder Baking	420	2007	53	224	296	984	..	1272	79
District Total for 1918	83561	567586	118229	82033	461635	254579	59853	229532	44961

* No recent figures available. † Branch of S.C.W.S.

No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.						
					Net Profit.	Interest on Share Capital.	Average Dividend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.		
Distributive.	Productive.	Distributive.	Productive.						Educational Purposes.	Charitable Purposes.	Co-operative Union.
		£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.
5296	1392	356430	104043	7286450	755217	62586	..	17079	8526	5550	652 8 0
560	1235	52350	96229	1364546	96601	11291	..	7285	1325	1182	27 0 0
5856	2627	408780	200272	8650996	851818	73877	..	24364	9851	6732	679 8 0
1	1	2	90	214	3548	403	10	2 9	..	5	1 1 0
2	2	..	116	..	3979	302	7	1 10	..	..	..
3	36	33	2531	2516	72405	9081	1232	2 5 1/2	..	..	10 5 5
4	11	..	1529	..	10790	650	80	1 0	..	..	..
5	38	32	2690	2462	72583	6895	967	1 9	..	..	11 17 9
6	40	26	2813	2376	66448	6718	978	1 10	..	40	..
7	6	..	361	..	11975	1412	216	2 1	..	16	1 12 3
8	4	..	324	..	8180	1007	105	2 5	..	4	..
9	3	..	169	..	1997	88	..	1 0	..	..	..
10	9	4	552	343	15438	1386	62	1 9	..	2	..
11	75	47	5404	4120	116071	11940	1716	1 10	..	210	117 18 15 0
12	12	..	814	..	12357	982	..	1 7	..	..	..
13	19	17	1265	1710	24100	2008	281	1 5	..	14	..
14	4	3	434	534	10666	292	67	1 6	..	..	..
15	5	3	236	199	5981	420	36	0 6	..	..	1 1 8
16	24	7	1247	599	25213	3247	353	2 0	..	..	..
17	74	14	5446	2263	78686	5105	616	1 1 1/2	..	70	3 10 6 3
18	35	..	3111	..	19957	688	188	..	..	4	15 10 0 0
19	339	78	19680	8309	434656	42395	4260	1 8 1/2	..	..	..
20	6	..	287	..	4689	2129	..	1 0	..	..	..
21	5	..	527	..	4695	486	..	2 0	..	..	..
22	4	3	283	334	9884	1223	23	2 7	..	..	..
23	4	3	326	358	12789	1307	27	2 1 1/2	..	..	..
24	4	3	299	310	7708	964	18	2 6	..	..	..
25	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
26	9	..	196	..	4551	338	13	1 4	..	..	..
27	3	2	230	238	8533	1049	15	2 6	..	..	..
28	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
29	4	..	239	..	5822	643	..	1 7 1/2	..	..	..
30	11	4	545	329	12421	983	150	1 6	..	3	3 2 9 2
31	10	2	645	371	12937	725	55	1 1 1/2	..	11	2 9 9
32	24	19	1700	1366	49689	4337	489	2 0	..	..	..
33	4	..	393	..	2970	397	42	2 6	..	..	..
34	3	..	123	..	1039	53	5	1 0	..	3	..
35	14	5	1154	735	28072	3326	76	2 4	..	10	..
36	3	..	119	..	3812	284	7	2 0	..	..	..
37	959	288	71578	28515	1208322	164771	8110	2 9	..	56	714 103 0 0
38	292	182	19925	14217	395075	43163	6658	1 9 1/2	..	554	182 39 16 0
39	18	..	1942	..	16394	1208	193	2 0	..	10	41 5 0 0
40	8	..	426	..	10148	923	..	1 10	..	..	..
41	6	5	406	280	7275	187	72	0 6	..	..	..
42	26	5	1691	372	33256	2948	424	1 8	..	2	..
43	3	3	237	221	5098	335	65	1 0	..	..	..
	2157	790	152083	73291	2840214	324669	27616	..	..	937	1164 217 14 3
44	4	3	219	368	5388	596	89	2 3	..	5	....
	2161	793	152302	73659	2845602	325265	27705	..	..	937	1169 217 14 3

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Members.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, including any Overdraft from Bank.	Reserve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Buildings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.
							House Property.	All other Investments.	
PEETH, FORFAR, & ABERDEEN DISTRICT—Con.		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
<i>Retail Societies Total for previous year (1917)</i>	72950	535060	95306	82358	391240	272364	53389	150550	45767
<i>Productive Society Total for previous year (1917)</i>	423	1678	51	180	220	1083	..	1035	82
<i>District Total for previous year (1917)</i>	73373	536738	95357	82538	391460	273447	53389	151585	45849
No. 9—RENFREWSHIRE DIS.									
<i>Retail Distrib. Societies—</i>									
Barrhead	3545	65215	33962	10220	24183	14693	21061	53739	2542
Bridge of Weir	341	3330	644	200	2188	664	1000	859	250
Busby	339	3108	99	321	1520	448	361	2037	299
Cathcart	975	11323	3957	1425	4760	2376	2800	8659	132
Greenock Central	9649	105928	26566	18935	55206	41029	29240	47307	7042
" East End	1320	15877	11006	2636	8961	4932	4450	13318	951
Howwood	149	2766	40	143	570	47	..	2527	69
Hurlet and Nitshill	282	909	8516	543	1832	905	4594	3434	700
Johnstone	2251	57409	5112	4061	17148	11898	9169	32188	1084
Kilbarchan	605	16410	2165	974	3166	1944	950	14963	387
Linwood	331	8244	..	570	2110	38	..	7009	555
Lochwinnoch	322	4843	4055	355	2315	1681	3034	2636	165
Newton Mearns	197	1288	5431	252	1133	869	1002	4224	385
Paisley Equitable	2066	26839	7304	916	8749	11353	..	17070	1290
" Provident	10102	170530	16780	31412	28100	71547	8875	126204	3637
" Underwood Coal.	973	5954	2232	3273	478	1529	..	10801	3450
Pollokshaws	1798	24853	227	2642	6086	3325	4088	17989	3150
Port Glasgow—United	4851	77187	3381	7838	25699	11423	6277	54801	2881
" Provident	2249	34301	1121	4056	7958	4762	2603	29432	19
Renfrew Equitable	2127	25753	41245	4231	10360	3285	5218	57340	1520
Thornliebank	597	19201	90	1110	2835	1532	5482	11061	1721
<i>Retail Soccs. Total for 1918</i>	42820	646967	172812	92057	207399	188518	107601	488106	32210
<i>Productive Societies—</i>									
Paisley Manufacturing	7743	84809	90484	12244	82690	33880	12820	70501	25296
Scottish Laundries Association (Barrhead)	479	5065	12775	2852	1282	10293	..	8454	1433
<i>Produce Soccs. Total for 1918</i>	7822	89874	103259	15096	83972	44173	12820	78955	26729
<i>District Total for 1918</i>	50642	736841	276071	107153	291371	232691	120421	567061	58939
<i>Retail Societies Total for previous year (1917)</i>	41171	576421	155139	78884	178700	201772	104457	391168	28881
<i>Productive Societies Total for previous year (1917)</i>	7021	75017	95026	13673	43754	47630	6596	84849	17461
<i>District Total for previous year (1917)</i>	48192	651438	250165	92557	222454	249402	111053	476017	46342
No. 10—STIRLING, WEST FIFE, AND CLACKMANNAN DISTRICT—									
<i>Retail Distrib. Societies—</i>									
†Aberfoyle	348	..	1096	..	1130	220	..	..	151
Alloa	5836	108530	10696	8401	54621	30955	15662	39686	1
Alva Bazaar	1230	25425	338	2140	7629	4200	600	16884	2
Balfron	151	412	..	..	385	33	..	1036	3
Bannockburn	1980	39800	..	6515	14683	13887	2648	19685	4
Clackmannan	395	10608	162	797	1575	1072	653	9349	5
Coalsnaughton	256	2318	855	735	2109	475	114	1773	6

† Branch of S.C.W.S. ‡ Nine months' trading, afterwards amalgamated with Port Glasgow United; only the figures from the 12th to the 21st columns are included in the totals.

		No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.						
		Distributive.	Productive.	Distributive.	Productive.		Net Profit.	Interest on Share Capital.	Average Dividend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.		
				£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.
		2486	871	129377	66865	2536164	289506	24773	..	..	901	854	201 1 6
		3	4	203	334	5992	538	78	..	..	..	2	....
		2489	875	129580	67199	2542156	290044	24851	..	..	901	856	201 1 6
1	125	55	9840	6847	240936	23707	2490	1 7	..	..	287	423	18 2 6
2	7	..	503	..	12524	1279	147	1 10 1	..	..	15	14	1 15 6
3	14	..	673	..	18059	1479	156	1 2	..	..	14	18	1 15 0
4	43	..	2985	..	59301	5832	477	1 8	..	..	62	14	5 0 0
5	326	85	27626	11217	507627	47094	4187	1 6	..	..	211	570	48 7 2
6	38	7	3293	1289	87531	11033	573	2 0	..	..	36	50	6 11 0
7	4	..	258	..	8921	901	128	1 9 1	..	..	..	10	0 16 9
8	12	1	832	27	25168	2498	93	2 1	..	..	26	86	1 9 2
9	74	16	6058	2072	133220	14403	2412	1 8 1	..	..	146	205	11 12 6
10	23	4	1682	218	41574	4701	627	1 10 1	..	..	20	106	3 2 2
11	9	..	716	..	23986	2740	378	2 0	..	..	26	33	1 14 2
12	10	3	739	346	19521	1826	218	1 10	..	..	8	4	1 13 4
13	4	..	568	..	15534	1810	62	2 4 1	..	..	..	25	1 0 10
14	93	19	5234	2205	124900	11519	1204	1 6 1	..	..	113	172	9 19 7
15	386	82	24926	10799	554304	54671	7920	1 6	..	..	1094	..	52 5 9
16	41	..	4601	..	40785	4622	247	2 6	..	..	..	165	4 8 8
17	53	5	6219	659	114194	10682	867	1 8	..	..	228	283	9 6 2
18	190	37	7941	3460	224951	27938	2301	2 0 1	1636	..	23	120	12 2 9
19	90	11	3467	1226	98282	12803	1280	2 1	..	..	..	..	10 0 0
20	87	4	7428	689	173299	20471	1005	2 1 1	..	..	159	288	10 18 9
21	20	..	1961	..	42864	5131	728	2 0	..	36	..	73	3 1 11
	1559	318	117550	41054	2567491	267140	27500	..	..	1672	2468	2659	215 3 8
22	93	360	11697	32026	389579	19072	3853	0 6	925	..	607	25	0 0 0
23	..	157	....	9708	24938	1465	253	1 0	..	..	10	16	1 0 0 0
	93	517	11697	42634	414517	20537	4106	..	925	..	10	623	26 0 0
	1652	835	129247	83688	2982008	287677	31606	..	2597	..	2478	3282	241 3 8
	1530	345	87846	32616	2965019	235373	24583	..	1467	..	2090	2075	202 0 8
	87	539	9137	37134	308603	20473	3589	..	1030	..	9	276	26 0 0
	1617	884	96983	69750	2373622	255846	28172	..	2497	..	2099	2451	228 0 8
1	9	..	661	..	11440	789	..	1 4	..	..	..	..	..
2	176	128	14240	10480	345850	45215	4632	2 3 1	..	..	293	242	29 8 10
3	35	23	2179	1869	75048	11017	931	2 8 1	..	..	123	72	6 8 9
4	3	..	271	..	4614	15	12	0 5 1	..	..	..	..	0 18 9
5	47	41	3796	2917	128984	21345	1727	3 0	..	..	..	..	10 0 0
6	7	8	657	782	29017	4596	452	2 10	..	..	17	68	1 19 3
7	3	2	600	419	20653	2656	106	2 5 1	..	..	..	28	1 7 3

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Members.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.					
		Share Capital.	Loans, including any Over-draft from Bank.	Re-serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Buildings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.	
							House Property.	All other Investments.		
STIRLING, WEST FIFE, AND CLACKMANNAN DIS.— <i>Con.</i>		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
Deanston	77	100	24	92	325	5		149		8
Dunblane	609	12204	37	613	2966	2185	505	8653	305	9
Menstrie	238	4307	100	402	1487	339	385	3070	359	10
Newtonshaw	892	14253	1672	1658	3669	3041	360	11230	1323	11
Stirling	4954	89632	2742	7892	29049	27158		54265	1636	12
Tillicoultry	1518	17975	108	1691	9237	5055	600	9683	964	13
District Total for 1918	18274	325614	17830	30936	128865	88625	21527	175463	14063	
<i>District Totals for previous year (1917)</i>	18023	294113	15033	29260	112446	84233	32281	150731	17932	
Wholesale Society— Scottish Wholesale (Glasgow) for 1918	1. 261	621187	3925109	1184008	2715075	747417	45431	2711674	555197	
<i>Scottish Wholesale Society Totals for previous year (1917)</i>	1. 263	593240	3664578	961143	1985853	684799	51088	2813212	578693	

1. Societies and 675 employé members.

No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.							
					Net Profit.	Interest on Share Capital	Average Dividend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.			
Distributive.	Productive.	Distributive.	Productive.	Educational Purposes.					Charitable Purposes.	Co-operative Union.		
			£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.
8	1	1	78	88	2994	65	6	0 11	..	..	..	....
9	14	4	1033	451	21614	2779	586	2 2	..	..	8	2 13 7
10	5	2	415	346	14736	2123	148	2 8	..	27	18	1 4 4
11	23	25	1735	2055	53266	7366	575	2 6	..	..	83	4 6 11
12	131	54	8647	6288	235541	33209	4097	2 5	..	303	..	25 17 10
13	45	31	3040	2508	77371	11004	810	2 7	..	80	53	7 18 0
	499	319	37352	23194	1021158	142182	14082	..	..	843	572	92 3 6
	514	334	33116	24010	913395	135667	13136	..	..	791	692	90 1 3
	1475	II.	213425	II.	19519485	547993	30443	0 5½	III.	9348	..	6374 132 0 0
	1545	II.	146154	II.	17079842	500915	28618	0 5½	III.	10016	..	5290 132 0 0

II. Including buying branches and service departments. III. Bonus equivalent.

SUMMARY OF THE

NAME OF DISTRICT.	No. of Societies.	No. of Members.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.				
			Share Capital.	Loans, including any Overdraft from Bank.	Reserve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Bldings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.	Owing to the Society for Goods.	
			£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
No. 1—AYRSHIRE.....	36	48044	881779	118357	61402	243961	189756	77782	610975	39210
" 2—BORDER COUNTIES..	12	18878	185952	35085	21283	103747	69233	6464	103340	29212
" 3—CENTRAL	42	59189	916083	500018	126715	429291	210606	78803	948753	106089
" 4—EAST OF SCOTLAND.	19	103957	1507502	137370	375822	705222	425536	140075	1130049	122201
" 5—FALKIRK	20	28537	504938	77558	43348	173031	110979	31261	385693	34238
" 6—FIFE AND KINROSS..	31	47977	849776	28235	79003	331133	326826	29291	405019	31762
" 7—GLASGOW & SUBURBS	35	141290	2028154	1032358	345697	1052917	606638	189093	1862413	182798
" 8—PERTH, FORFAR AND ABERDEEN	44	83561	567586	118229	82033	461635	254579	59853	229532	44961
" 9—RENFREWSHIRE	23	50642	736841	276071	107153	291371	232691	120421	567061	58939
" 10—STIRLING, WEST OF FIFE, & CLACKMANNAN	13	18374	325614	17830	30936	128865	88625	21527	175463	14063
WHOLESALE SOCIETY.....	1	261	621187	3925109	1184068	2715075	747417	45431	2711674	555197
Totals, 1918.....	276	590710	9125412	6266220	2407460	6639248	3264886	800001	9129972	1162670
Totals, 1917.....	276	571583	8165832	5881305	2114221	5017404	3295955	850827	8569907	1161245
Increase .....	..	19127	959580	384915	293239	1621844	..	..	560165	1425
Decrease .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	31069	50826	..	..

Summary showing Members, Capital, Trade, &c.,

			£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Distributive Societies	261	575385	7877897	2069252	1121236	3783354	2250010	718081	5788173	539076
Productive Societies	14	15064	626328	271859	152156	140819	267459	36489	630125	68397
Wholesale Society	1	261	621187	3925109	1184068	2715075	747417	45431	2711674	555197
Total for Section ..	276	590710	9125412	6266220	2407460	6639248	3264886	800001	9129972	1162670

Summary showing Members, Capital, Trade, &c., of

given for purposes of comparison. See also Introduction to

			£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
<i>Distributive Societies Total for previous year (1917)</i>	261	557258	7202502	1767131	1009000	2936724	2311485	773400	5206793	531116
<i>Productive Societies Total for previous year (1917)</i>	14	14062	370090	449596	143169	94827	299671	26339	549802	51436
<i>Wholesale Society Total for previous year (1917) ..</i>	1	263	593240	3664578	961143	1985853	684799	51088	2813212	578693
<i>Total for Section for previous year (1917)</i>	276	571583	8165832	5881305	2114221	5017404	3295955	850827	8569907	1161245

SCOTTISH SECTION.

	No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.					
	Distributive.	Productive.	Distributive.	Productive.		Net Profit.	Interest on Share Capital.	Am't Paid as Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.		
									Educational Purposes.	Charitable Purposes.	Co-operative Union.
			£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£ s. d.
1	1276	588	92088	58907	2355305	275112	35806	12	1834	1784	217 1 9
2	374	219	30508	18676	691515	98422	8016	..	90	495	62 13 10
3	2338	1069	171021	102160	4687788	566401	37083	68	2835	5680	295 8 0
4	3859	1791	278505	170063	5815669	966693	54658	..	1346	3049	531 18 11
5	819	433	61298	43097	1818361	255044	20371	2	484	1252	129 0 7
6	1502	786	101161	69480	2662118	374885	33352	..	2202	1280	294 9 9
7	5848	2538	507494	243272	9750066	946548	78586	27096	10895	6829	727 3 2
8	2161	793	152302	73659	2845602	325265	27705	..	937	1169	217 14 3
9	1652	835	129247	83688	2982008	287677	31606	2597	2478	8282	241 3 8
10	499	319	37352	28194	1021158	142182	14082	..	843	572	92 3 6
11	1475	6849	213425	584085	19519485	547993	30443	9348	..	6374	132 0 0
	21803	16220	1774401	1475281	54149075	4786222	371708	39123	23944	31766	2890 17 5
	21777	16423	1422947	1248002	47729719	4488808	344427	37196	22295	29304	2656 15 9
	26	..	351454	227279	6419356	297414	27281	1927	1649	2462	224 1 8
	..	203	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	....

of various classes of Societies for Year 1918.

		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£ s. d.
19699	7459	1478338	706566	32654903	4098605	322657	20238	22860	23478	2680 15 11
629	1912	82638	184630	1974687	139624	18608	9537	1084	1914	68 1 6
1475	6849	213425	584085	19519485	547993	30443	9348	..	6374	132 0 0
21803	16220	1774401	1475281	54149075	4786222	371708	39123	23944	31766	2880 17 5

various classes of Societies for previous Year (1917),

Statistics for Tables showing increase of memberships, &c.

		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£ s. d.
19495	7449	1208763	582135	28702591	3841996	298228	18637	20896	22188	2455 14 3
737	1997	68030	156147	1947286	145897	17581	8543	1399	1826	69 1 6
1545	6977	146154	509720	17079842	500915	28618	10016	..	5290	132 0 0
21777	16423	1422947	1248002	47729719	4488808	344427	37196	22295	29304	2656 15 9

SOUTHERN

RETURN OF TRADE, &c., of Co-operative Societies in the Counties of
ISLE OF WIGHT, LONDON, KENT, MIDDLESEX, OXFORD,
arranged in their respective

a These particulars are taken from our last year's return. b These particulars are taken
this office or to

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Mem- bers.	LIABILITIES.				ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, includ- ing any Over- draft from Bank.	Re- serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Bldgs., Machin- ery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.	
							House Prop- erty.	All other Invest- ments.		
No. 1—NORTH METRO- POLITAN DISTRICT— Retail Distrib. Societies—		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
Anchor.....	2144	6201	416	616	5407	..	..	2844	39	1
Co-op. Brotherhood Trust	127	464	200	223	399	16	212	273	28	2
Croxley	494	3819	327	415	3014	988	444	1101	193	3
Edmonton	31473	158960	32626	15374	105230	83977	4860	45101	508	4
Enfield Highway	11016	185746	11409	12020	90587	38929	2416	98390	..	5
Epping.....	1522	11445	654	822	5426	3219	..	6083	382	6
Euston	845	255	141	531	2056	..	..	1115	22	7
Gothic (Edmonton)	86	105	..	100	221	23	..	200	107	8
Grays	7612	65841	6160	7771	50381	30666	665	17647	973	9
Hendon	2418	10724	4023	1649	9406	7986	586	1158	..	10
*Kingston-on-Thames ....									..	11
London Perseverance ...	344	1222	272	142	1119	61	..	750	..	12
Railway Clearing House.	1240	1542	3209	1209	4213	940	..	1595	1593	13
St. Clements	106	128	..	24	104	31	..	139	..	14
†South Suburban	23642	159385	18780	8586	103719	61548	17938	38944	3030	15
Staines	2371	17225	5180	1426	12719	9875	805	3142	104	16
Stratford	43048	485976	9534	19873	198688	219296	38849	149578	..	17
Watford	7100	61049	14846	5044	31041	21767	..	34458	229	18
West London	13719	78347	11757	1970	44949	25578	1844	35817	396	19
Willesden and District ..	5771	33487	19636	2562	37903	13270	6027	4127	379	20
Willesden Junc. Railway	438	4385	195	201	2112	31	..	3537	2	21
Woolwich (Royal Ars'n'l)	60868	783040	57166	106097	342440	230130	21721	475046	1835	22
Wiewsley & West Drayton	1461	12670	2196	1333	8137	5400	201	4946	16	23
Retail Socs. Total for 1918	218345	2082016	198727	187988	1059271	753731	96568	925991	9844	
Supply Association— Civil Service Supply	7609	353920	89939	128475	347675	199762	24572	86241	48277	24
Productive Societies— Co-op. Bass Dressers....	65	819	..	2811	653	..	..	4163	1831	25
Greenwich Bread & Flour	60	685	49	214	69	550	150	246	..	26
King's Cross Publishing..	8	150	1000	1500	10	..	..	2173	1263	27
London Bookbinders ...	79	341	..	14	210	53	..	214	115	28
London Clothiers	118	1790	412	471	2956	102	..	416	836	29
a Woodworkers Limited (Letchworth)	7	8430	18129	..	2427	10452	..	6099	843	30
Produc. Socs. Total for 1918	337	12215	19590	5010	6325	11157	150	13311	12488	
District Total for 1918	220291	2448151	308256	321473	1413271	964650	121290	1025543	70609	
†Retail Societies Total for previous year (1917)	134502	1043275	102096	58976	413967	474431	70066	410887	7597	
Supply Associations Total for previous year (1917) ..	7559	353920	757321	26904	328795	201258	24572	123913	36140	
†Productive Societies Total for previous year (1917)	359	14171	20852	7280	9876	12079	..	14488	12864	
†District Total for previous year (1917)	142420	1411366	198700	193160	752638	687768	94638	549288	56601	

* No data available. † This society is an amalgamation of Bromley and Crays, Croydon, and Penge and Beckenham Societies. ‡ This total includes Brentwood, Chesham, and Chesham Boot and Shoe Societies, but does not include Kingston-on-Thames, South Suburban, Staines, Woolwich, or Greenwich Bread and Flour Societies.

SECTION.

BEDFORD, BERKS, BUCKS, CAMBRIDGE, DORSET, ESSEX, HANTS, HERTS, NORFOLK, SUFFOLK, SURREY, SUSSEX, and WILTS, for 1918, Conference Districts.

from the Registrar's Return for 1917. c These societies have not made a return either to the Registrar.

No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.									
					Net Profit.	Interest on Share Capital	Average Dividend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.					
Distributive.	Productive.	Distributive.	Productive.	£					£	£	s. d.	£	£	£
1	26	3	1982	496	52277	1359	239	0 6	..	10	100	9 13	0	
2	2	..	214	..	2733	70	2	0 6 1/2	..	2	1	0 12	9	
3	10	2	611	166	22097	1893	169	1 6	47	..	1	2 11	1	
4	571	103	48701	11820	599593	31100	6898	0 8	..	763	499	167 1	8	
5	268	29	24252	4117	373672	37511	8579	1 3	..	697	322	52 15	4	
6	30	5	2338	428	44228	2501	478	1 0	45	51	49	7 14	8	
7	14	..	680	..	22951	1204	26	1 11	..	..	2	....	
8	1	..	129	..	1696	13	5	0 9 1/2	..	..	1	....	
9	205	33	18574	3479	261104	18652	2293	1 1 1/2	230	347	188	39 16	4	
10	40	3	3507	565	42608	2107	465	0 7 1/2	172	70	82	3 17	9	
11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1 10	0
12	4	..	392	..	7080	379	40	0 9	11	7	31	1 17	6	
13	10	..	1219	..	21789	757	154	0 8	..	..	..	....
14	3	..	136	..	1918	84	1	2 0	..	..	..	....
15	471	35	28124	4099	382437	33033	4671	1 0	..	639	166	118 15	6	
16	64	10	5260	1028	63560	2911	712	0 7 1/2	69	56	18	14 19	8	
17	1151	199	97574	32871	1440578	103436	26638	1 0 1/2	..	762	286	228 0	8	
18	126	20	10232	2454	202999	18801	2626	1 5 1/2	..	55	146	36 13	4	
19	196	17	16844	2582	230775	10105	3170	0 7 1/2	..	191	77	72 10	11	
20	114	10	9319	1230	144240	7748	1281	0 8	132	154	57	29 0	6	
21	8	..	842	..	18102	1756	193	1 8	..	..	23	2 6	7
22	1342	277	137211	37678	2077778	175776	31738	1 1 1/2	5090	3020	779	315 19	8	
23	47	4	3030	444	52508	3701	472	1 1 1/2	129	87	23	8 1	6	
		4703	750	411171	103457	6066723	454897	90850	..	5925	6911	2851	1113 18	5
24	1632	158	154178	21982	1714108	56072	..	..	..	..	96	39 7	5
25	..	21	..	2863	12134	2218	30	..	927	..	17	0 7	0	
26	1	3	69	105	1811	79	32	..	..	..	..	0 5	0
27	..	7	..	867	7053	308	86	..	..	..	..	0 8	3
28	..	5	..	459	903	63	..	1 0	..	..	..	0 11	7
29	..	19	..	2764	7836	666	88	0 9	141	..	17	..		
30	..	2	..	196	2708	643	..	..	..	..	..	....
		1	57	69	7254	32445	3977	236	..	1068	..	34	1 11	10
		6336	965	565418	132693	7813276	514946	91086	..	6993	6911	2981	1154 17	8
		2843	462	205012	56596	3115711	214095	50419	..	607	2800	1193	615 16	7
		1643	158	141779	21051	1662654	57235	..	..	..	119	39 4	0
		3	97	611	11171	57181	5018	197	..	1076	108	116	2 1	2
		4489	717	347402	88818	4835546	276348	50616	..	1683	2908	1428	657 1	9

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Members.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, including any Over-draft from Bank.	Re-serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Bldings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.
							House Property.	All other Investments.	
No. 2—SURREY DISTRICT—		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Retail Distrib. Societies—									
Addington	15	96	257	292	193	..	..	693	58
Addlestone	2016	13673	1165	1949	7295	3137	327	9194	216
Godalming	1750	23880	1875	107	11938	7201	1657	7121	626
Gomshall	362	3384	463	147	1236	468	609	2070	109
Guildford	3981	50450	4590	9360	18119	16923	6936	31589	572
Haslemere	1426	20238	1490	1319	8032	4141	2026	11707	400
Reigate	1822	24007	7154	760	5970	13674	11562	3270	639
Woking	2699	21008	9875	948	7950	7493	12856	6715	712
District Total for 1918	14071	156736	26869	14882	60733	53037	35073	72359	3332
†Retail Societies Total for previous year (1917)	97776	969691	99937	104331	333375	430096	66730	473370	11272
†Productive Societies Total for previous year (1917)	64	712	49	198	86	600	175	154	..
†District Total for previous year (1917)	97840	970403	99986	104529	333461	430696	66905	473524	11272
No. 3—KENT DISTRICT—									
Retail Distrib. Societies—									
Ashford	3058	37336	6151	1513	15429	16246	3983	12425	472
Canterbury	886	3706	3	386	1776	910	..	1983	253
Chatham and District...	4203	52208	13795	1895	38192	20247	..	12464	905
Crayford Works	989	1113	..	887	3001	650	..	659	200
Dartford	3236	31380	4300	2976	21455	7370	1777	11018	834
Faversham	1867	27987	1705	1979	12414	2011	..	20984	172
Folkestone	3959	50727	2081	3466	23817	14483	7420	18845	1002
Gillingham	7440	117273	24541	10255	55584	26220	2465	82021	1485
Gravesend (Borough of) ..	3469	17874	4811	1418	14946	7772	280	2906	..
Greenstreet	428	3373	2	656	1393	1259	570	1608	170
Maidstone	847	4868	1645	344	4830	1618	..	1377	118
Rainham	736	10224	859	770	6103	1838	258	4880	..
Ramsgate	836	4452	1170	397	4095	1662	..	821	318
River and District	5634	74914	4774	4673	28182	19830	3277	45330	1734
Rochester and District ..	3898	29133	6084	1469	18655	16677	153	2287	336
Sheerness	4308	58223	3474	3651	33575	15840	5194	19349	616
Sheerness Economical ..	2884	24788	578	2487	8924	10473	4177	8315	153
Sittingbourne	4195	59431	10056	6821	17032	18218	4619	47456	279
Tonbridge	737	4613	2526	254	2632	3316	912	965	349
Walmer and Mongeham ..	820	5509	195	482	3251	2786	..	1498	311
Retail Soc. Total for 1918	54430	619132	88759	16779	315286	189126	35085	297101	9707
Productive Society—									
Alfred Joint Stock Bread and Flour	613	3581	2187	400	612	5745	..	401	538
District Total for 1918	55043	622713	90946	47179	315898	195171	35085	297502	10245
§Retail Societies Total for previous year (1917)	52994	562470	94988	36500	253813	186848	45376	279266	14498
Productive Society Total for previous year (1917)	618	3562	2021	250	771	5414	..	871	782
§District Total for previous year (1917)	53612	566032	97009	36750	254584	192262	45376	280137	15280

This total includes South Suburban, Staines, Woolwich, and Greenwich Bread and Flour Societies, but does not include the Reigate Society.

§ This total does not include the Crayford Works Society.

	No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.						
	Distributive.	Productive.	Distributive.	Productive.		Net Profit.	Interest on Share Capital	Average Dividend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.		
										Educational Purposes.	Charitable Purposes.	Co-operative Union.
			£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.
1	3	..	162	..	3281	83	5	1 0	..	..	..	0 2 6
2	48	7	3600	935	64868	4821	615	1 0	192	98	31	10 8 4
3	36	4	3161	481	53807	3700	1108	1 0	..	20	17	8 13 2
4	9	2	651	226	12219	735	156	1 0	20	7	7	1 16 7
5	94	10	8411	1084	140553	15555	2458	1 6	..	..	..	20 10 0
6	32	3	1911	551	47417	4224	859	1 4	53	33	35	7 2 8
7	48	3	3374	361	49520	2360	1122	0 6	..	10	3	9 6 2
8	71	9	4472	712	88090	6049	894	1 0	89	103	62	13 1 5
	341	38	25742	4350	459764	37527	7217	..	354	271	155	71 0 10
	2290	389	167443	46241	2636449	181606	38794	..	4406	2865	749	455 5 4
	1	3	82	116	2024	172	33	..	..	..	..	....
	2291	392	167525	46357	2638473	181778	38827	..	4496	2865	740	455 5 4
1	89	4	5029	276	85858	7047	1647	1 1 1/2	223	136	53	15 9 2
2	11	5	789	223	18539	928	150	1 0	..	..	11	4 6 6
3	110	16	8265	1297	130803	9546	2421	1 0	..	175	48	21 11 5
4	12	..	1670	..	34230	658	35	..	..	11	1	....
5	94	10	7594	1367	139573	10609	1363	1 2	..	226	99	16 13 2
6	56	7	4535	759	75285	6919	1069	1 6	..	78	81	9 16 0
7	107	10	8100	1020	137851	12682	2279	1 6	..	..	70	20 12 0
8	247	98	16957	7749	311943	27032	5447	1 6	..	204	327	38 19 2
9	80	6	5080	873	91515	3358	770	0 6 1/2	..	62	14	17 4 11
10	10	2	598	205	15680	1388	125	1 6	26	22	4	2 4 3
11	16	3	1280	402	23122	1325	191	0 9	25	21	15	4 10 5
12	19	8	1433	615	31065	2438	436	1 4	..	11	24	3 15 4
13	15	2	831	128	17774	949	188	0 11	..	14	15	5 2 4
14	144	36	10306	2733	186781	17757	3577	1 8	..	100	..	29 12 8
15	85	6	5710	670	100788	5331	1289	0 9 1/2	..	89	..	19 5 5
16	108	39	9217	2479	128267	14359	2284	1 7	346	75	87	22 13 11
17	51	25	3496	2530	59813	3668	1134	0 10	9	9	64	15 15 10
18	112	33	7660	2250	173436	18876	2337	1 10	363	100	109	21 13 8
19	10	3	731	348	21315	1164	188	0 10	..	..	7	3 18 2
20	16	1	993	196	21786	1348	239	1 0	..	31	9	4 3 2
	1392	314	100274	26120	1805424	147382	27169	..	992	1355	1038	277 7 6
21	20	8	1403	1592	27677	2355	192	1 6 1/2	..	..	4	....
	1412	322	101677	27712	1833101	149737	27361	..	992	1355	1042	277 7 6
	1396	307	88768	24448	1671129	128061	24727	..	648	1179	1210	248 17 0
	21	9	1408	1455	32420	3205	174	..	..	..	15	....
	1417	316	90176	25903	1703549	131266	24901	..	648	1179	1225	248 17 0

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Members.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.					
		Share Capital.	Loans, including any Overdraft from Bank.	Reserve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Buildings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.	
							House Property.	All other Investments.		
No. 4.—SUSSEX DISTRICT—										
Retail Distrib. Societies—		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
Arundel	795	5633	1141	882	3403	1855	650	2222	24	1
Brighton	6681	66976	8557	3516	21906	20292	9711	36763	960	2
Crawley and Ifield	681	4824	837	356	3343	1087	..	2314	36	3
Hastings, St. Leonards and Bexhill	492	1256	89	83	1436	18	..	778	..	4
Haywards Heath	1499	9857	5057	850	8424	7850	..	1454	444	5
Lewes	2002	25924	5816	1190	11929	8564	9214	5483	1644	6
Newhaven	2967	26616	8626	1461	17450	11476	3674	7626	1916	7
Tunbridge Wells	2526	22088	2770	1344	8662	4775	2053	12487	150	8
District Total for 1918	17643	163174	32893	9682	76553	55917	25302	69127	5174	
*Totals, previous year (1917)	18882	163330	37010	8882	62662	68764	39016	54681	9313	
No. 5.—HANTS DISTRICT—										
Retail Distrib. Societies—										
Aldershot	3420	21606	1535	700	11131	10858	665	3823	..	1
Andover	1803	14875	428	2349	6640	3251	643	10387	33	2
Basingstoke	1795	16607	2363	1618	13163	3641	..	5408	135	3
Cowes	2814	19074	16650	1665	16500	11095	2451	10318	..	4
Eastleigh	2350	20759	9612	1031	20573	9812	516	3581	115	5
Farnham and District ..	2007	9123	1068	597	5427	5180	..	1889	..	6
Parkstone & Bournemouth	6653	49201	10224	5172	29175	24035	1301	16682	..	7
†Portsea Island	16816	205533	16686	12634	108154	84297	11334	56713	1667	8
Ringwood	647	7094	1075	128	7512	1202	334	488	74	9
Romsey	526	1815	145	310	2518	141	..	572	120	10
Shanklin Lake and Branstone Union	679	7397	1677	430	4233	1194	2856	2188	176	11
Southampton	8133	68958	10213	4915	38567	20816	5336	33639	..	12
Winchester	1720	15618	2418	1191	12047	6495	900	2803	15	13
Retail Socis. Total for 1918	49363	457660	74094	32740	275640	182017	26336	148491	2335	
Special Society—Farnham and Alton Farmers	129	478	742	1388	374	..	..	1479	1726	14
Productive Society—Portsmouth Printers ...	103	408	859	..	87	1010	..	214	227	15
District Total for 1918	49595	458546	75695	34128	276101	183027	26336	150184	4288	
†Retail Societies Total for previous year (1917)	49032	396270	71053	23807	216146	178194	28270	122083	6537	
Special Society Total for previous year (1917)	129	487	488	1158	355	..	..	1415	1981	
Productive Society Total for previous year (1917) ...	103	312	867	..	105	784	..	256	122	
†District Total for previous year (1917)	49264	397060	72408	24965	216606	178978	28270	123754	8640	
No. 6.—WILTS AND DORSET DISTRICT—										
Retail Distrib. Societies—										
Amesbury	213	343	138	592	966	5	..	420	..	1
Bradford-on-Avon	1018	13168	3073	841	4858	3450	60	10221	208	2
Caine	518	2683	1059	292	2141	708	109	1676	169	3
†Childe Okeford	575	2973	202	1071	3873	1174	104	522	318	4
Chippenham	2134	16264	5186	1227	13438	5807	..	6308	982	5

* This total includes the Reigate Society.

† 41 weeks' trading. ‡ This total includes the Petersfield Society.

No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.							Subscriptions.	
					Net Profit.	In- terest on Share Capital	Aver- age Divi- dend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Educa- tional Pur- poses.	Chari- table Pur- poses.	Co-operative Union.		
Distributive.	Pro- ductive.	Distributive.	Pro- ductive.	£								£	£
1	17	3	1122	263	21794	1517	244	1 1	53	18	20	3 19	3
2	166	26	11273	1979	193286	13907	2969	1 0 1/2	581	247	498	34 2	6
3	18	2	1376	218	20054	1268	194	1 1 1/2	..	26	39	3 2	4
4	8	1	635	160	9630	353	48	0 7 1/2	..	9	4	2 12	5
5	26	8	1577	359	28989	1359	274	1 0	..	16	16	6 18	4
6	46	4	3055	381	51313	4112	1013	1 0	145	65	23	10 5	2
7	68	11	4709	1504	114602	4270	1168	0 9	..	83	47	14 5	1
8	51	10	3946	980	57196	3262	982	0 8	128	77	314	16 6	5
	400	65	27693	5844	496864	30048	6892	..	907	525	961	91 11	6
	451	62	28294	5876	489656	30748	7000	..	893	492	236	90 5	6
1	58	5	4687	836	67924	3303	942	0 8	..	60	21	17 5	1
2	41	10	3369	695	66906	5698	665	1 5	..	111	21	9 14	10
3	49	7	3549	582	67399	5421	721	1 4	..	116	6	9 6	0
4	71	24	5960	2562	107736	6899	842	1 0	126	149	69	14 11	8
5	52	18	4485	1543	94661	5941	876	1 0	106	124	26	12 4	8
6	27	4	2273	447	36174	1770	391	0 8 1/2	39	34	38	9 18	8
7	122	14	9083	2291	154654	9625	2070	0 10 1/2	166	166	86	34 11	6
8	409	125	21426	10110	376948	34865	6444	1 4	1292	773	90	86 0	7
9	20	3	1235	139	23357	1000	269	0 10	23	18	..	3 10	10
10	11	3	863	179	15502	917	73	1 0	82	20	..	2 14	0
11	19	4	1363	330	28774	1603	323	0 11 1/2	..	30	30	4 7	6
12	181	23	16692	3783	207199	14493	3043	1 0	..	268	137	60 4	0
13	43	5	2812	723	63302	4509	652	1 2 1/2	..	83	34	8 15	9
	1103	245	77797	24220	1310536	96044	17311	..	1834	1952	558	273 5	1
14	1	..	78	..	11428	251	23	..	233	..	..	..	..
15	1	5	185	473	1716	105	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1105	250	78060	24693	1323680	96400	17334	..	2067	1952	558	273 5	1
	1142	221	71912	22462	1252420	95486	17746	..	2069	1790	509	227 1	1
	1	..	78	..	21628	356	24	..	250	..	..	..	..
	2	4	153	259	1022	196	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1145	225	72143	22721	1275070	96038	17770	..	2319	1790	509	227 1	1
1	4	1	273	42	7118	702	14	1 0	15	..	..	1 0	10
2	24	5	1437	490	30950	3349	495	1 6	..	35	33	5 4	0
3	10	4	598	221	13628	1026	114	1 3	..	19	7	2 14	9
4	9	..	353	..	12987	882	97	1 6	..	..	..	..	..
5	36	16	2881	1070	72047	6596	684	1 5	..	111	26	10 13	6

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Members.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, including any Over-draft from Bank.	Reserve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Bldings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.
							House Property.	All other Investments.	
WILTS AND DORSET DISTRICT—con.									
Devizes	1152	6554	1472	553	4559	1395	..	2882	260
Mere	674	2843	3384	346	3199	2696	..	562	729
Salisbury	2891	22984	4113	2127	11385	5100	2980	13455	558
Sturminster Newton	452	1032	..	..	625	55	..	506	..
Trowbridge	4807	66017	15212	3687	22646	26503	13356	31095	..
Warminster	785	6340	1433	1202	1801	2220	..	5535	204
Weymouth	4560	36390	3498	2104	30175	12827	450	5590	801
Wilton	310	3722	..	245	528	758	284	3039	115
Retail Socs. Total for 1918	20089	181313	38770	14287	100194	62498	17343	81811	4353
Productive Society— Sherston Co-op. Milling..	50	514	463	212	159	704	..	131	651
District Total for 1918	20139	181827	39233	14499	100353	63202	17343	81942	5004
† Retail Societies Total for previous year (1917)	18394	152488	28159	10806	65569	50569	16982	80103	5509
Productive Society Total for previous year (1917)	49	479	452	187	91	538	..	330	616
† District Total for previous year (1917)	18443	152967	28611	10903	65660	51107	16982	80433	6125
No. 7—OXFORD DISTRICT—									
Retail Distrib. Societies—									
Aldermaston	124	902	93	101	875	76	..	1031	343
Banbury	6073	93424	6294	8267	40694	26220	11954	42107	2141
Carterton (Agric. and Dist.) ..	124	1141	..	109	362	422	..	705	34
Chipping Norton	2501	53424	2879	1955	14521	10687	4003	34362	826
High Wycombe	1303	7162	789	209	4135	3947	..	1221	230
Kingshill	1915	4536	188	520	1770	4313	332	2828	15
Maldenhead	1137	4426	3078	128	3580	4661	..	552	65
* Middleton Stoney .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
New Swindon Industrial	9148	63773	12681	4976	47139	16906	572	29495	178
Oxford	11610	126221	13381	12329	48417	28386	33382	57024	1678
Reading	12115	218553	7320	11869	51915	62297	32869	105974	5522
Slough	2710	21291	2933	603	16031	7632	1282	2690	..
Sunningdale	390	1026	715	187	1545	123	..	526	101
Windsor	1385	9457	700	420	5364	3713	..	2384	480
Retail Socs. Total for 1918	47535	605336	51051	41733	236348	169383	84454	280899	11613
Productive Societies— Oxford Builders	40	547	406	82	170	146	414	190	194
Swindon Provident	3402	5510	950	883	1671	5057	..	120	4073
Produc. Socs. Total for 1918	3442	6057	1356	965	1841	5203	414	310	4267
District Total for 1918	50977	611393	52407	42698	238189	174586	84868	281209	15880
Retail Societies Total for previous year (1917)	47110	539420	50807	22955	184819	162852	93636	224834	16217
Productive Societies Total for previous year (1917)	3419	5737	2380	1009	881	5218	424	246	4930
District Total for previous year (1917) ..	50529	545157	53187	23964	185700	168070	94060	225080	21147
No. 8—CAMBRIDGE DIST.—									
Retail Distrib. Societies—									
Arlesey	628	7332	33	909	410	1122	1539	6161	11
Burwell	308	1513	2	205	1085	257	..	874	19
Cambridge	8403	74772	12387	9157	34297	27231	855	45916	124
Chatteris	547	5823	..	349	2301	670	..	3854	81
Ely	1322	9626	983	482	4468	3774	..	3803	..

* No recent information available.

† This total does not include the Sturminster Newton Society.

No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.			Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.							Subscriptions.		
Distributive.	Productive.		Distributive.	% Productive.		Net Profit.	Interest on Share Capital.	Average Dividend per £.	Bonus on Wages.		Educational Purposes.	Charitable Purposes.	Co-operative Union.		
			£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	
6	32	7	1735	501	32424	1703	271	1 0	28	..	24	5	17	8	
7	14	4	693	304	15560	1018	110	1 1	..	..	6	2	17	6	
8	31	8	2340	645	65615	4767	965	1 2	..	50	3	10	16	8	
9	2	..	315	..	8029	49	9	..	..	..	..	1	17	6	
10	112	24	7869	1972	143555	16263	2393	2 0	..	106	121	24	18	0	
11	15	4	896	253	24249	1830	215	1 4	..	15	22	13	19	6	
12	106	12	6814	1596	123571	9973	1635	1 4	138	68	38	22	2	8	
13	7	1	322	91	10084	1205	170	1 7	..	..	11	1	10	3	
	402	86	26526	7185	559817	49363	7172	..	181	404	291	93	12	10	
14	..	2	..	139	5129	100	23	0 6	..	..	..	0	6	0	
	402	88	26526	7324	564946	49463	7195	..	181	404	291	93	18	10	
	383	71	21908	7146	502076	36976	6326	..	146	306	224	82	18	8	
	..	4	..	172	6923	121	6	..	8	..	3	0	5	0	
	383	75	21908	7318	508999	37097	6332	..	154	306	227	83	3	8	
1	3	1	294	103	8279	637	39	2 0	..	..	..	..	..	..
2	112	60	8043	4344	196707	17746	3501	1 7½	..	424	112	31	7	2	
3	3	..	163	..	5118	383	43	1 6	..	7	7	0	12	1	
4	76	20	4599	1219	105487	11236	2347	1 8	..	110	198	13	0	0	
5	23	3	1572	319	23066	1111	299	0 9	..	19	8	6	2	0	
6	14	11	1117	1184	24826	5217	212	3 0	..	..	8	..	..	..
7	18	3	1247	262	21858	741	188	0 6	27	13	6	5	8	0	
8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	10	0	
9	133	24	9799	2268	171899	16826	2818	1 6	229	258	28	31	2	6	
10	203	39	12440	2880	261482	31500	5999	1 8	..	600	119	62	11	4	
11	223	85	20684	9209	374849	36900	8311	1 3	1004	667	202	61	11	2	
12	58	8	3697	743	75419	4718	917	0 10	71	72	29	13	14	6	
13	6	2	505	276	10562	488	39	1 0	..	12	..	1	19	7	
14	22	3	1843	255	29800	1461	410	0 7½	27	23	24	7	3	9	
	894	259	66603	23062	1309352	128964	25123	..	1358	2205	741	235	2	1	
15	..	5	..	485	828	89	26	0 3	..	1	2	0	5	0	
16	17	12	1797	1422	38898	6161	253	3 0	..	..	7	..	..	..
	17	17	1797	1907	39636	6250	279	..	..	1	9	0	5	0	
	911	276	68400	24969	1348988	135214	25402	..	1358	2206	750	235	7	1	
	871	253	58433	20422	1173595	106228	22691	..	1314	1980	654	214	12	9	
	15	19	1433	1864	44612	4685	269	..	..	3	9	0	6	6	
	886	272	59866	22286	1218207	110913	22960	..	1314	1983	663	214	19	3	
1	10	3	573	291	21534	2014	281	1 8	..	..	17	3	5	5	
2	5	..	325	..	8362	941	69	2 5	..	..	17	1	11	3	
3	182	28	13092	3130	214914	21362	3229	1 5	..	187	67	42	13	9	
4	9	2	666	176	15519	1514	260	1 7½	..	..	9	2	14	0	
5	23	6	1622	424	39687	2281	385	1 2	..	20	9	6	15	6	

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Members.	LIABILITIES.				ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, including any Over-draft from Bank.	Re-serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Buildings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.	
							House Property.	All other Investments.		
CAMBRIDGE DISTRICT—con.		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
Garden City Co-operators	910	5023	740	83	2550	3180	..	574	181	6
Hitchin	482	2735	841	205	2290	790	..	1099	195	7
Newmarket	1931	24536	2165	1167	12617	8572	204	9224	546	8
Potton	270	4951	559	1041	522	..	..	4266	..	9
St. Neots	500	1536	1049	243	2642	758	..	263	80	10
Saffron Walden	688	3615	452	361	1239	1400	..	1993	19	11
Sawston	1210	13899	1227	1124	8552	2372	474	6104	177	12
Soham	200	758	362	40	911	400	..	349	86	13
Retail Socs. Total for 1918	17499	156119	20241	14884	74403	51048	3072	84480	1519	
Productive Society— aGarden City Press	188	8852	11086	250	3091	12898	..	436	2914	14
District Total for 1918	17687	164971	31327	15134	77494	63946	3072	84916	4433	
†Retail Societies Total for previous year (1917)	17184	133772	19233	11351	56357	52913	3164	70491	2883	
Productive Society Total for previous year (1917)	188	8852	11086	250	3091	12898	..	436	2914	
†District Total for previous year (1917)	17372	142624	30319	11601	59448	65811	3164	70927	5797	
No. 9—NORFOLK DIST.—										
Retail Distrib. Societies—										
Beccles	2108	16742	13135	1026	17798	7502	1645	7171	624	1
Brandon	341	1594	719	365	1997	794	..	1157	..	2
Bury St. Edmunds	1277	5656	94	282	5269	1804	..	2138	109	3
Cromer	663	2700	35	542	2682	128	..	1332	..	4
Diss	484	3273	269	617	1545	90	..	2714	150	5
Fakenham	522	3081	48	431	1190	45	..	3144	31	6
Great Yarmouth	2526	12695	3368	1694	5178	7824	..	7471	117	7
King's Lynn	3330	8587	8503	1640	9026	5072	2820	7296	..	8
Lakenheath	174	482	153	102	785	267	..	330	..	9
Lowestoft	2572	20805	5620	1228	15471	11637	..	2682	..	10
Melton Constable	520	3461	283	136	2560	1130	..	763	..	11
Norwich	10886	143353	13499	12013	48663	33775	8845	92207	..	12
Sheringham	647	5136	22	926	2520	518	390	3115	187	13
Swaffham	589	2891	128	361	2476	473	..	1229	20	14
Thetford	1448	8970	1016	1114	8548	2103	293	3552	..	15
Wymondham	700	7550	570	364	5580	1547	..	2101	35	16
District Total for 1918	28787	246976	47462	22841	131288	74709	13993	138402	1273	
Totals, previous year (1917)	28383	226747	39248	18847	98582	77164	11198	126648	4316	
No. 10—ESSEX & SUFFOLK DISTRICT—										
Retail Distrib. Societies—										
Braintree & West Essex.	1840	23001	3924	970	7774	6757	1275	13260	20	1
Brentwood	1642	13756	4159	897	7446	3765	1548	6968	..	2
Chelmsford Star	4338	58558	215	4401	30761	13754	1810	22350	223	3
Clacton	895	10272	343	2660	908	1900	..	10983	15	4
Coggeshall	354	2026	469	202	1345	775	139	681	71	5
Colchester	9839	121175	7995	8599	35381	32154	25316	57696	6	6
Dunmow	236	1897	64	114	1510	11	..	1128	34	7
Earls Colne	348	4214	542	57	1113	119	642	2414	4	8
Halstead	1873	18490	4400	1757	7823	3888	4719	9768	40	9
Harwich, Dovercourt, & Parkstone	2027	24745	1605	5330	16096	7632	2004	8297	123	10
Haverhill	1887	16554	25020	3068	18398	12738	849	15974	360	11
Ipswich	13720	197674	25254	21500	103056	62892	11215	96947	201	12
Lavenham	183	556	530	92	665	188	..	503	..	13
Leiston	1193	14063	223	910	5346	2019	2445	7478	..	14
Maldon and Heybridge..	1477	11808	3402	1019	10825	4180	159	2459	..	15

† This total includes the Bishop's Stortford Society.

No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.			Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.						
						Net Profit.	In- terest on Share Capital	Aver- age Divi- dend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.		
Distrib- utive.	Pro- ductive.	Distrib- utive.	Pro- ductive.	Educa- tional Pur- poses.	Chari- table Pur- poses.					Co-operative Union.		
			£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.
6	22	3	1032	282	22020	1004	1 0	9	18	2	4 14 9	
7	6	2	577	80	12259	762	1 0	22	14	8	2 9 6	
8	75	7	4357	672	68039	5005	1 1	..	66	21	9 12 8	
9	7	..	494	..	9951	973	1 6	..	20	11	1 18 7	
10	14	1	685	208	19892	886	1 0	..	11	8	2 8 8	
11	9	2	534	220	13892	803	0 9	..	8	7	3 11 3	
12	24	6	1248	488	39096	2251	1 0	..	24	8	6 5 0	
13	4	..	208	..	5413	397	1 8	..	..	..	....
14	390	60	25413	5971	490597	40193	6678	..	22	368	184	88 0 4
	..	71	..	5501	12091	£213	..	..	..	5	..	....
	390	131	25413	11472	502688	†40193	6678	..	22	368	189	88 0 4
	370	50	21514	4885	405320	32111	5780	..	17	336	119	82 19 11
	..	71	..	5501	12091	£213	..	..	..	5	..	1 0 0
	370	130	21514	10386	417411	32111	5780	..	17	336	124	83 19 11
1	52	13	3202	496	79776	6810	765	1 7	..	70	32	11 1 0
2	6	3	395	78	15452	1895	73	2 5	..	..	8	1 15 6
3	19	5	1600	259	29584	2115	213	1 4	..	..	7	6 5 0
4	15	2	807	179	18740	1229	115	1 2	21	27	4	3 6 0
5	9	2	775	122	13845	1165	143	1 6	..	..	12	2 11 0
6	11	..	718	..	16518	1359	138	1 6	..	27	4	2 14 2
7	59	9	3441	794	59633	4339	629	1 3	..	47	18	13 10 2
8	80	13	4428	923	91822	7898	319	1 8	97	181	29	16 5 8
9	3	..	170	..	5254	407	22	1 10	..	..	2	....
10	91	17	5395	1170	84742	6104	912	1 3	180	125	43	12 7 11
11	10	..	723	..	12177	800	156	1 0	26	10	6	2 12 1
12	295	42	20993	3549	388303	42042	6550	1 7 1	1730	382	..	57 0 2
13	9	7	730	280	17249	1614	240	1 8	..	32	7	3 5 5
14	10	3	479	190	14588	1006	126	1 2	..	..	7	3 1 6
15	24	8	2423	430	56650	8375	376	2 8	..	..	210	7 10 10
16	..	..	1044	145	29033	1643	350	..	..	76	41	3 11 1
	693	124	47323	8615	933366	88801	11027	..	2130	942	399	146 17 6
	704	117	41715	7374	834896	77639	10077	..	1850	859	489	127 6 10
1	42	8	2640	475	53505	3678	816	1 0	..	69	13	9 7 6
2	36	3	2856	305	42888	2876	610	1 0	..	52	48	8 16 0
3	119	18	8303	1748	142296	12995	2682	1 4	..	..	40	22 6 4
4	12	5	874	359	25743	2474	375	1 4	..	20	11	4 5 5
5	6	4	400	250	10312	762	92	1 6	..	..	4	1 19 6
6	335	67	14456	5070	249149	21284	5590	1 2	..	284	245	51 0 0
7	3	..	277	..	6582	424	87	1 0	..	10	1	5 5 0
8	4	2	275	152	9742	772	160	1 2	10	3	2	1 16 2
9	43	10	2834	625	45173	2553	823	0 9	..	20	39	9 6 9
10	102	19	7639	1126	117966	7787	1122	1 1 1	135	169	131	10 0 0
11	51	43	3862	2912	86471	6872	680	1 6	..	50	32	9 16 6
12	372	82	27754	7893	504153	48976	9034	1 3	..	789	481	71 8 0
13	2	..	145	..	4688	299	27	1 6	..	..	1	..
14	15	..	1265	..	28870	3521	464	2 1	..	..	15	5 15 0
15	32	7	2057	776	41372	2744	528	1 0	..	57	24	7 15 0

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Members.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, including any Over-draft from Bank.	Reserve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Bldings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
ESSEX & SUFFOLK DIS. - <i>Con.</i>									
Stowmarket	2206	5136	5082	5294	9758	5105	..	2414	16
Tertling	190	1624	1018	155	649	12	..	2373	17
Tiptree	871	7064	184	184	3425	2506	323	1952	18
Walton-on-the-Naze	194	172	41	31	210	36	..	93	19
Wickham Market	584	3116	250	10	1098	1334	590	736	20
Witham	922	13073	1354	1301	5095	1871	3063	7610	21
Woodbridge	519	1483	..	406	2326	496	..	439	22
Retail Socs. Total for 1918	47248	550462	84074	56957	271008	165242	56097	272523	1299
Special Society— aMersea Isl'nd Fisherm'n's	86	168	..	74	42	32	..	243	23
District Total for 1918	47334	550630	84074	57031	271050	165274	56097	272766	1303
†Retail Societies Total for previous year (1917)	44654	470797	65546	40623	189525	172634	52967	214799	3636
Special Society Total for previous year (1917)	86	168	..	74	42	32	..	243	4
†District Total for previous year (1917)	44740	470965	65546	40697	189567	172666	52967	215042	3640
No. 11—BEDS. AND BUCKS. DISTRICT—									
Retail Distrib. Societies—									
Aylesbury	1421	15465	567	1152	7320	4980	247	5359	371
Bedford	2540	12808	2624	1456	8350	6102	932	3907	2
Berkhamstead	1274	19041	5828	1874	9193	6507	6206	6017	3
Bletchley	1269	16918	1151	1987	6627	5855	1393	7738	17
Chesham	1382	20548	1053	735	5365	6130	559	11812	170
Grandborough	43	28	..	135	69	..	..	220	6
Hemel Hempstead (Boro' of)	974	7659	1242	404	4597	2570	..	2746	40
Leighton Buzzard	925	11871	423	481	1817	1936	2733	7332	263
Luton	6400	102696	23182	4953	19401	14562	17822	86577	55
Newport Pagnell	711	5642	1518	223	4755	2115	132	1143	144
Olney	364	1026	797	..	1396	241	735	601	110
Radlett	257	2815	..	1393	1495	1310	..	2030	336
Ravenstone	63	232	..	85	197	5	..	186	3
St. Albans	2054	12744	751	594	5508	5886	..	4180	363
Silsoe	307	1265	..	292	1454	41	..	700	14
Stony Stratford	901	18360	1445	313	6433	3820	390	10254	141
Swanbourne	103	185	174	107	691	..	..	80	70
Tring	1025	16965	1227	553	4339	2823	6525	6222	234
Wolverton	2551	49612	15269	2356	29900	9786	6997	25027	1314
Retail Socs. Total for 1918	24564	315880	57251	19093	118907	74669	44731	182131	4245
Productive Society— Chesham Boot and Shoe.	114	4437	1715	3322	6900	1415	..	3037	397
District Total for 1918	24678	320317	58966	22415	125807	76084	44731	185168	4642
†Totals, previous year (1917)	22936	245268	46099	13849	82949	67780	47343	130348	4670

† This total does not include the Walton-on-the-Naze Society.

† This total does not include the Chesham Society nor the Chesham Boot and Shoe Productive Society.

	No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.						
	Distributive.	Productive.	Distributive.	Productive.		Net Profit.	Interest on Share Capital	Average Dividend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.		
										Educational Purposes.	Charitable Purposes.	Co-operative Union.
			£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.
16	46	9	3302	666	53299	3019	217	0 8	56	83	23	10 6 4
17	2	..	152	..	5239	531	74	1 6	..	..	..	....
18	17	3	1207	189	20318	1248	314	1 0	..	..	9	4 8 8
19	2	..	129	..	1898	143	5	1 0	..	..	..	....
20	11	3	568	135	10343	117	114	..	..	..	2	2 18 9
21	20	2	1114	670	31400	3058	603	1 6	34	67	12	4 14 0
22	10	2	585	200	12523	1052	59	1 6	..	..	..	....
	1282	287	82694	23551	1503840	127185	24485	..	235	1673	1133	241 4 11
23	2	..	94	..	1708	183	6	..	..	5	1	....
	1284	287	82788	23551	1505548	127368	24491	..	235	1678	1134	241 4 11
	1281	272	68553	20550	1356379	105615	20583	..	222	1640	1313	213 14 2
	2	..	94	..	1708	183	6	..	..	5	1	....
	1283	272	68647	20550	1358087	105798	20589	..	222	1645	1314	213 14 2
1	23	6	2136	577	43294	3395	655	1 2	..	68	8	6 13 1
2	45	6	3296	662	65973	4256	551	0 11 1	..	88	21	13 0 1
3	37	10	2462	545	50602	4351	838	1 3	..	80	29	6 10 3
4	20	9	1868	598	40878	3422	688	1 0	..	44	12	6 0 4
5	25	7	2403	704	48942	3673	873	1 1 1	..	67	27	6 17 2
6	1	..	71	..	1366	80	1	1 4	..	..	..	....
7	24	3	2086	308	32018	2161	318	1 0	..	46	33	4 17 0
8	14	2	851	202	23689	2561	504	1 6	..	12	20	4 13 10
9	117	14	9862	1629	194643	19512	4231	1 6	233	389	100	35 1 0
10	14	2	1100	186	20489	1379	231	1 1 1	..	15	13	3 11 9
11	4	2	532	133	10051	182	50	0 4 1	..	..	1	1 17 6
12	14	1	974	135	17511	1064	134	1 3	..	..	31	....
13	1	..	78	..	1885	178	10	1 6	..	..	1	0 6 6
14	39	5	3087	652	53434	3847	534	1 2	..	60	71	10 8 4
15	4	2	312	104	7550	484	59	1 0	5	..	6	1 12 0
16	19	4	1711	375	31880	2729	806	1 3	..	20	19	4 12 8
17	2	..	183	..	4060	325	9	1 8	..	..	..	10 0 0
18	25	3	1294	258	30477	2207	619	1 0	..	20	16	5 8 3
19	76	22	6122	2201	131858	11627	2150	1 8	..	239	31	12 15 3
	504	98	40728	9269	810600	67433	13261	..	238	1148	439	131 5 0
20	..	59	..	8585	29671	985	188	0 3	367	40	113	0 11 3
	504	157	40728	17854	849271	68418	13449	..	605	1188	552	134 16 3
	472	91	30590	7887	664638	55307	10813	..	227	867	200	109 4 3

SUMMARY OF THE

NAME OF DISTRICT.	No. of Societies.	No. of Members.	LIABILITIES.				ASSETS.			
			Share Capital.	Loans, including any Overdraft from Bank.	Re-served Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Bldings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.
			£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
No. 1—METROPOLITAN	30	226291	2418151	308256	321473	1413271	964650	121290	1025543	70609
" 2—SURREY	8	14071	156736	26869	14882	60733	53037	35973	72359	3332
" 3—KENT	21	55043	622713	90946	47179	315898	195171	35085	297502	10245
" 4—SUSSEX	8	17643	163174	32893	9682	76553	55917	25302	69127	5174
" 5—HANTS.	15	49595	458546	75605	84128	276101	183027	26336	150134	4288
" 6—WILTS. AND DORSET . . .	14	20139	181827	39233	14499	100353	63202	17343	81942	5004
" 7—OXFORD	16	50977	611393	52407	42698	238159	174586	34868	281209	15880
" 8—CAMBRIDGE	14	17687	164971	31327	15134	77494	63946	3072	84916	4433
" 9—NORFOLK	16	28787	246976	47462	22841	131288	74709	13993	138402	1273
" 10—ESSEX AND SUFFOLK	23	47334	550630	84074	57031	271050	165274	56097	272766	1303
" 11—BEDS. AND BUCKS. . . .	20	24678	320317	58966	22415	125807	76084	44731	185168	4642
Totals, 1918.	185	552245	5925434	848128	601962	3086737	2069603	464090	2659118	126183
Totals, 1917.	185	544421	5291919	768123	488237	2301857	2161066	499919	2329862	146801
Increase . . . . .	..	7824	633515	80005	113725	784980	..	..	329256	..
Decrease . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	..	91463	35829	..	20618

Summary showing Members, Capital, Trade, &c.,

		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Retail Distrib. Societies . . .	169	539574	5534804	720191	461866	2719631	1881677	438954	2553315	54694
Productive Societies	13	4847	36064	37256	10159	19015	38132	564	17840	21482
Supply Association	1	7609	353920	89939	128475	347675	199762	24572	86241	48277
Special Societies	2	215	646	742	1462	416	32	..	1722	1730
Total for Section (1918) . . .	185	552245	5925434	848128	601962	3086737	2069603	464090	2659118	126183

Summary showing Members, Capital, Trade, &c., of
given for purposes of comparison. See also Introduction to

		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Retail Distrib. Socs. Totals for previous year (1917) . . .	169	531847	4903528	654176	350927	1957764	1922245	474748	2187510	86448
Productive Societies Totals for previous year (1917) . . .	13	4800	33825	37707	9174	14901	37531	599	16781	22228
Supply Associations Totals for previous year (1917) . . .	1	7559	353920	75752	126904	328795	201258	24572	123913	36140
Special Societies Totals for previous year (1917) . . .	2	215	646	488	1232	397	32	..	1658	1985
Total for Section for previous year (1917)	185	544421	5291919	768123	488237	2301857	2161066	499919	2329862	146801

SOUTHERN SECTION.

	No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.					
	Distri- butive.	Pro- ductive.	Distri- butive.	Pro- ductive.		Net Profit.	Interest on Share Capital.	Am't Paid as Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.		
									Educa- tional Pur- poses.	Chari- table Pur- poses.	Co-operative Union.
1	6336	965	£ 565418	£ 132693	£ 7813276	£ 514946	£ 91086	£ 6993	£ 6911	£ 2981	£ s. d. 1154 17 8
2	341	38	25742	4350	459764	37527	7217	354	271	155	71 0 10
3	1412	322	101677	27712	1833101	149737	27361	992	1355	1042	277 7 6
4	400	65	27693	5844	496864	30048	6892	907	525	961	91 11 6
5	1105	250	79060	24693	1323680	96400	17334	2067	1952	558	273 5 1
6	402	88	26526	7324	564946	49463	7195	181	404	291	93 18 10
7	911	276	68400	24969	1348988	135214	25402	1358	2206	750	235 7 1
8	390	131	25413	11472	502688	40193	6678	22	368	189	88 0 4
9	693	124	47323	8615	933366	88901	11027	2130	942	399	146 17 6
10	1284	287	82788	23551	1505548	127368	24491	235	1678	1134	241 4 11
11	504	157	40728	17854	840271	68418	13449	605	1188	552	134 16 3
	13778	2703	1089768	289077	17622492	1338115	238132	15844	17800	9012	2808 7 6
	13891	2669	949780	265476	15944532	1135043	215665	13823	15230	7164	2510 18 9
	..	34	139988	23601	1677960	203072	22467	2021	2570	1848	297 8 9
	113	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

of various classes of Societies for Year 1918.

12104	2326	£ 931964	£ 241644	£ 15746883	£ 1267837	£ 237185	£ 14176	£ 17754	£ 8750	£ s. d. 2766 6 0
39	219	3454	25451	148365	13772	918	1435	41	165	2 14 1
1632	158	154178	21982	1714108	56072	..	..	..	96	39 7 5
3	..	172	..	13136	434	29	233	5	1	..
13773	2703	1089768	289077	17622492	1338115	238132	15844	17800	9012	2808 7 6

various classes of Societies for previous Year (1917),

Statistics for Tables showing increases of membership, &c.

12203	2304	£ 804142	£ 223887	£ 14102269	£ 1063872	£ 314956	£ 12489	£ 15114	£ 6896	£ s. d. 2468 2 1
42	207	3687	20538	156273	13397	679	1084	111	148	3 12 8
1643	158	141779	21051	1662654	57235	..	..	..	119	39 4 0
3	..	172	..	23336	539	30	250	5	1	..
13891	2669	949780	265476	15944532	1135043	215665	13823	15230	7164	2510 18 9

SOUTH-WESTERN**RETURN OF TRADE, &c., of Co-operative Societies in
arranged in their**

a These particulars are taken from our last year's return. *b* These particulars are taken
this office or to

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Mem- bers.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, Includ- ing any Over- draft from Bank.	Re- serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Buildings, Machin- ery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.
							House Prop- erty.	All other Invest- ments.	
No. 1—CORNWALL—									
Retail Distrib. Societies—									
Bodmin	498	1932	340	260	1625	1062	..	433	113
Camborne	1676	7890	1198	814	6683	3550	..	719	..
Delabole	801	4514	..	540	2206	687	254	3262	..
<i>a</i> East Cornwall	102	782	..	347	420	187	..	641	104
Falmouth	474	700	463	186	1321	93	..	164	131
Liskeard, St. Cleer & Dist.	1822	13699	1031	689	5750	4288	808	6673	25
Lostwithiel	394	1932	500	157	1522	955	..	267	238
Menheniot	256	1319	572	319	934	87	308	1063	80
<i>a</i> Pensilva	167	1270	50	13	555	642	..	157	50
Penzance	2248	8811	938	588	9804	470	..	1740	472
Roche	232	419	56	68	549	61	..	284	..
St. Austell	1395	4066	387	223	3450	755	..	336	430
St. Blazey	440	2899	219	301	1650	675	..	1764	..
St. Columb Road	867	4089	595	741	3332	920	336	2024	..
St. Mawes	348	554	..	74	236	29	..	390	..
Saltash	1297	9542	583	2064	3542	2609	780	9220	100
<i>a</i> Tokenbury Corner Coal ..	231	228	100	..	205	..	..	242	56
Tynro	274	730	728	..	1097	472	..	778	..
Wadebridge	499	2533	629	158	2191	1251	..	547	111
District Total for 1918	14021	67909	8389	7542	47072	18793	2486	30704	1910
<i>District Total for previous year (1917)</i>	13175	54190	6549	6561	30754	19991	2602	26754	1925
No. 2—DEVON—									
Retail Distrib. Societies—									
<i>a</i> Ashburton	260	547	250	207	839	451	..	223	116
Axminster	119	126	18	15	285	16	..	254	18
Bideford	575	1308	936	70	1206	586	..	677	127
Bovey Tracey	762	5279	334	713	3891	584	..	2836	173
Brixham	1391	17551	889	1309	9174	4957	267	7765	525
Buckfastleigh	1055	18581	1799	1947	7769	7185	2531	6821	..
Budleigh Salterton	275	1389	300	233	903	469	..	679	..
Colyton	132	339	12	..	455	324	..	203	52
Cornwood	240	823	282	468	1170	467	..	409	..
Cullompton	206	2157	298	26	1128	474	281	766	30
<i>a</i> Dartmouth	550	1882	596	257	1137	1103	247	558	..
Exeter	6179	38882	4794	1040	20200	22875	1803	5385	230
Exmouth	982	7941	43	382	3293	1479	..	3911	..
Honiton	367	1648	612	139	881	1315	..	420	..
Ilfracombe	330	839	108	206	871	405	..	326	..
Kingswear	241	939	16	383	1007	268	..	545	..
* Lee Moor .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Moreton Hampstead	420	2249	94	267	2643	408	..	243	107
Newton Abbot	2304	21782	4005	1885	16242	5145	121	9306	617
North Tawton	147	490	244	65	487	56	..	402	..
Okehampton	641	2774	102	222	1864	250	..	813	339
Paignton	2734	24124	4357	2256	21291	8559	..	4778	487
Plymouth	59426	676142	62491	139513	389861	429774	78449	62419	486
Plympton	1099	4667	3746	514	5427	3794	1481	933	221
<i>a</i> Sidmouth	600	4567	417	431	1778	1868	..	1752	59
South Molton	644	3798	384	284	1921	184	..	2714	..

SECTION.

the Counties of CORNWALL, DEVON, and SOMERSET, for 1918, respective Counties.

from the Registrar's Return for 1917. c These societies have not made a return either to the Registrar.

No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.						
					Net Profit.	Interest on Share Capital	Average Dividend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.		
Distributive.	Productive.	Distributive.	Productive.						Educational Purposes.	Charitable Purposes.	Co-operative Union.
		£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.
1	8	1	396	101	8946	520	86	1 0	..	6	3 4 0
2	33	3	1552	289	38697	2225	305	1 1½	..	20	1 8 9 11
3	11	..	777	..	24309	2151	215	2 6	..	14	30 4 2 6
4	1	..	81	..	3424	211	33	1 10	..	..	..
5	5	2	419	228	10924	281	30	1 0	..	4	2 4 8
6	25	6	1770	472	46398	2529	560	1 4	..	10	21 9 8 7
7	8	..	398	..	12532	619	80	1 1	..	1	4 1 15 9
8	4	..	242	..	6394	458	61	1 6	..	6	12 1 6 0
9	2	..	147	..	3755	185	63	0 11	..	..	0 17 5
10	41	8	2218	766	57313	2252	315	0 10½	..	35	25 10 1 2
11	4	..	169	..	5097	269	19	1 0	..	..	0 18 9
12	19	..	939	..	20387	1061	178	1 0	..	14	74 9 14 0
13	9	..	553	..	12875	1121	122	1 5½	..	10	8 2 5 0
14	11	..	643	..	16715	1740	188	1 8	..	12	29 4 8 0
15	3	..	114	..	2467	52	28	1 6	..	1	.. 1 13 4
16	24	6	1755	716	40928	4484	360	2 0	95	71	46 6 14 0
17	2	..	111	..	1121	46	7	1 8	..	..	..
18	3	..	217	..	4378	230	27	1 0	..	..	5 1 14 11
19	9	..	404	..	10692	693	111	1 3	..	..	7 .. 2 8 10
222		26	13181	2572	327352	22127	2788	..	108	181	272 71 5 7
208		19	10444	1464	296680	19773	2294	..	81	146	143 54 15 5
1	4	..	294	..	6165	103	12	1 0	..	..	..
2	1	..	71	..	3007	164	5	1 0	..	8	.. 0 11 7
3	9	2	479	109	12627	905	48	1 5	..	..	2 18 9
4	14	10	1253	328	22840	1646	235	1 3½	..	10	3 3 18 2
5	41	7	1934	500	54302	4114	758	1 6	..	..	23 7 16 2
6	19	18	1618	806	44229	3886	810	1 3	..	71	28 5 8 4
7	7	..	209	..	5058	468	56	1 0	5	..	2 1 7 6
8	1	1	118	86	4107	99	5	0 6	..	..	0 14 3
9	6	3	341	182	9491	709	36	1 6	9	..	4 1 5 4
10	3	2	118	82	4178	320	97	1 3	..	..	2 1 0 8
11	9	2	342	175	8599	497	74	1 0	..	7	.. 3 0 5
12	92	19	5991	1661	94900	6622	1630	1 0	96	116	89 28 11 8
13	8	3	408	306	16241	935	379	0 9	17	17	.. 5 4 0
14	3	2	195	76	5539	326	73	0 10	..	3	.. 1 10 0
15	4	..	195	..	5652	389	28	1 3	..	..	1 2 11
16	3	3	149	163	6703	658	40	1 6	7	14	4 0 16 11
17	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0 17 8
18	11	2	612	172	13378	527	102	0 9	..	2	..
19	48	9	3240	815	67383	5493	975	1 4	..	40	37 11 9 3
20	1	..	70	..	3129	208	19	1 4	4	2	.. 0 14 10
21	8	..	744	125	12880	703	118	1 3	..	1	8 3 4 7
22	60	8	4623	618	91933	7851	1154	1 4	..	86	37 19 9 6
23	1706	600	114486	57427	1796649	196093	31169	1 6½	6071	3154	1130 301 0 1
24	20	10	927	640	30342	2011	189	1 2	..	9	3
25	7	2	535	172	11464	155	49	1 5½	..	..	.. 3 6 0
26	9	4	421	193	11422	1154	146	1 8	5	13	5 3 5 1

t Per ton.

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Mem- bers.	LIABILITIES.				ASSETS.			
		Share Capital.	Loans, includ- ing any Over- draft from Bank.	Re- serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Buildings, Machin- ery, and Fixed- Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.
							House Prop- erty.	All other Invest- ments.	
DEVON—Con.		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Tavistock	768	3903	137	394	1758	1238	87	1856	..
Teignmouth	1157	7365	1002	465	6520	2501	..	2568	40
Tiverton	817	6462	2180	..	4650	3929	..	1136	129
Torquay	4209	55079	7985	3578	19394	20689	5057	26986	721
Torrington	491	1592	..	231	1821	62	..	368	10
Retail Socs. Total for 1918	89220	915025	98431	157500	529776	521415	90384	148052	4487
Productive Society:—									
Plymouth Printers	219	1707	1146	332	1800	1927	..	80	1578
Special Society:—									
Devonport Royal Dockyard Canteen and Restaurant Society Limited	476	144	..	2500	579	249	..	3708	..
District Total for 1918	89915	916876	99577	160332	532155	523591	90384	151840	6065
<i>Retail Societies Total for previous year (1917)</i>	<i>84006</i>	<i>788514</i>	<i>108868</i>	<i>134865</i>	<i>397012</i>	<i>471626</i>	<i>128098</i>	<i>124724</i>	<i>4108</i>
<i>Productive Societies Total for previous year (1917)</i>	<i>213</i>	<i>1666</i>	<i>1047</i>	<i>86</i>	<i>911</i>	<i>2089</i>	<i>..</i>	<i>60</i>	<i>819</i>
<i>District Total for previous year (1917)</i>	<i>84219</i>	<i>790180</i>	<i>109915</i>	<i>134951</i>	<i>397923</i>	<i>473715</i>	<i>128098</i>	<i>124784</i>	<i>4927</i>
No. 3.—SOMERSET—									
Retail Distrib. Societies —									
a Bath	1545	6799	3001	86	2875	5853	..	1375	515
Bridgwater	3254	19681	6273	2113	11348	6429	4197	7964	2272
Bristol	22127	225418	32508	19283	95007	96376	206	104599	9782
Brunton	722	3876	822	294	2565	1864	185	1292	376
Butleigh	218	1659	43	157	1253	79	..	767	56
Chard	2515	38856	83	2226	13119	5840	9150	17206	791
Chewton Mendip	133	559	316	163	978	88	..	167	8
Coleford	862	10555	1563	459	5575	2927	..	5393	..
Crewkerne	827	7804	206	400	6229	2780	..	580	967
East Harptree	159	884	26	319	1317	10	..	364	15
Frome	1728	14142	4158	635	7379	5368	..	8879	..
Minehead	386	943	33	362	1020	..	..	700	..
Oakhill	224	1757	15	274	1324	308	..	966	87
Portishead	792	4397	1930	..	3069	2489	732	873	163
Radstock	7306	87471	22319	3777	58828	23051	9054	29274	..
Shepton Mallet	859	4907	1888	723	5198	2624	225	1406	958
Stoke-under-Ham	370	1711	545	220	1150	1303	..	320	160
a Street Industrial	891	5337	2664	476	2274	1522	249	3104	701
Taunton	2764	32342	600	1597	15082	5701	13184	5144	..
Templecombe	308	1938	72	305	970	664	..	1627	28
Twerton-on-Avon	5813	44218	12762	2816	36765	16153	4338	9736	1448
Wellington	1619	33691	4185	584	13347	8333	10038	8261	908
Wells	321	847	4	..	1620	..	..	430	..
Weston-super-Mare	1162	9104	1977	638	5103	2463	1898	3662	74
Yeovil	2920	19618	7311	1724	10489	5879	2186	13033	259
Retail Socs. Total for 1918	59825	578424	105304	39631	303484	198104	55642	226122	19568
Productive Society:—									
Bristol Printers	68	801	418	274	770	443	..	764	345
District Total for 1918	59893	579225	105722	39905	304254	198547	55642	226886	19913
<i>Retail Societies Total for previous year (1917)</i>	<i>57356</i>	<i>482369</i>	<i>86142</i>	<i>36719</i>	<i>225727</i>	<i>178847</i>	<i>52202</i>	<i>209531</i>	<i>18976</i>
<i>Productive Society Total for previous year (1917)</i>	<i>68</i>	<i>646</i>	<i>329</i>	<i>162</i>	<i>549</i>	<i>475</i>	<i>..</i>	<i>150</i>	<i>264</i>
<i>District Total for previous year (1917)</i>	<i>57424</i>	<i>483015</i>	<i>86471</i>	<i>36881</i>	<i>226276</i>	<i>179322</i>	<i>52202</i>	<i>209681</i>	<i>19240</i>

	No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.						
	Distri- butive.	Pro- ductive.	Distri- butive.	Pro- ductive.		Net Profit.	In- terest on Share Capital	Aver- age Divi- dend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.		
										Educa- tional Pur- poses.	Chari- table Pur- poses.	Co-operative Union.
			£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.
27	10	3	460	199	18753	1339	157	1 9	..	..	2	3 19 4
28	25	2	1439	194	26059	1647	301	1 0	25	..	10	5 16 8
29	14	3	588	208	13773	1042	311	1 0	..	..	..	5 2 6
30	93	35	6533	2878	118476	11226	2477	1 4	..	154	251	21 10 8
31	12	2	527	115	12886	1359	66	2 0	..	36	1	2 6 9
	2248	754	148920	68230	2532183	252649	41459	..	6247	3735	1653	447 9 8
32	..	19	..	2025	8118	617	78	0 2	93	8	..	1 8 3
33	20	..	1090	..	20788	1657	..	..	..	..	365	2 9 4
	2268	773	150010	70255	2561089	254923	41537	..	6340	3743	2018	451 7 3
	2137	695	124097	52955	2052448	182132	37236	..	4874	3530	1427	398 8 2
	..	21	..	1709	5242	113	64	..	11	3	2	1 1 9
	2137	716	124097	54664	2057690	182245	37300	..	4885	3533	1429	399 9 11
1	14	3	1294	307	21925	887	309	0 8	..	8	..	14
2	64	10	4050	727	84911	7418	845	1 5	87	141	25	14 4 9
3	550	59	46082	8191	570570	44039	9373	1 3	..	921	287	113 12 8
4	14	4	937	372	25021	1533	171	1 6	..	..	11	3 11 10
5	3	1	180	89	6591	462	85	1 6	..	..	5	..
6	50	4	2687	455	61820	6816	1779	1 9	..	..	19	12 19 8
7	3	..	197	..	5062	366	24	1 4 1/2	..	..	..	..
8	15	9	1367	587	36519	3487	434	1 8	..	..	22	4 8 1
9	17	8	922	562	32516	2235	353	1 6	..	..	3	..
10	4	..	208	..	6905	692	43	2 0	..	..	..	0 14 7
11	28	5	1969	722	38923	2203	613	1 0	..	10	22	7 16 3
12	5	..	222	..	7410	636	38	1 0	..	..	6	1 19 11
13	5	2	297	170	9319	710	79	1 6	..	..	..	..
14	11	3	932	339	18991	642	176	0 6	..	..	..	3 15 6
15	212	31	13316	3480	297643	24409	3559	1 8	..	..	59	35 15 0
16	20	4	1305	251	25504	1354	210	1 0	..	..	9	..
17	7	3	383	260	9834	737	81	1 6	..	..	..	3 6 10
18	8	4	699	348	21633	745	123	1 6	..	..	..	..
19	44	9	3210	889	69228	6885	1481	1 6	80	60	10	13 0 0
20	3	2	262	215	19276	1414	78	1 4	10	..	..	1 9 4
21	127	25	9294	2179	162098	10973	1750	1 2 1/2	..	232	160	27 0 0
22	17	13	1477	1049	44902	4518	1526	1 4	..	69	6	8 4 7
23	5	..	263	..	15973	694	131	0 9	..	..	3	..
24	22	3	1442	277	23547	1777	380	0 11	24	30	24	5 8 6
25	55	..	4569	..	64027	3765	824	1 0	..	82	50	15 4 8
	1305	202	97564	21469	1660148	127755	24370	..	201	1553	721	272 12 2
26	..	9	..	1114	3136	599	36	..	82	10	..	0 7 6
	1303	211	97564	22583	1663284	128354	24406	..	283	1563	721	272 19 8
	1265	204	81381	19315	1486735	127956	19771	..	172	1256	536	251 11 9
	..	9	..	656	1676	200	31	..	21	3	..	10 6 10
	1265	213	81381	19971	1488411	128156	19802	..	193	1259	536	251 18 7

SUMMARY OF THE

NAME OF DISTRICT.	No. of Societies.	No. of Members.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.					
			Share Capital.	Loans, including any Over-draft from Bank.	Re-serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Bldings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.	
			£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
No. 1—CORNWALL	19	14021	67909	8389	7542	47072	18793	2486	30704	1910	1
„ 2—DEVON	33	89915	916876	99577	160332	532155	523591	90384	151840	6065	2
„ 3—SOMERSET.....	26	59893	579225	105722	39905	304254	198547	55642	226886	19913	3
Totals, 1918	78	163829	1564010	213688	207779	883481	740931	148512	409430	27888	
Totals, 1917.....	76	154818	1327385	202935	178393	654953	673028	182902	361219	26092	
Increase	2	9011	236625	10753	29386	228528	67903	..	48211	1796	
Decrease .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	34390	..	..

Summary showing Members, Capital, Trade, &c.,

			£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Retail Distrib. Societies ..	75	163066	1561358	212124	204673	880332	738312	148512	404878	25965
Productive Societies	2	287	2508	1554	606	2570	2370	..	844	1923
Special Society.....	1	476	144	..	2500	579	249	..	3708	..
Total for Section ..	78	163829	1564010	213688	207779	883481	740931	148512	409430	27888

Summary showing Members, Capital, Trade, &c., of

given for purposes of comparison. See also Introduction to

			£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Retail Distrib. Socs. Total for previous year (1917) ..	74	154537	1325073	201559	178145	653493	670464	182902	361009	25009
Productive Societies Total for previous year (1917) ..	2	281	2312	1976	248	1460	2564	..	210	1083
Total for Section for previous year (1917) ..	76	154818	1327385	202935	178393	654953	673028	182902	361219	26092

SOUTH-WESTERN SECTION.

	No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.					
	Distributive.	Productive.	Distributive.	Productive.		Net Profit.	Interest on Share Capital.	Am't Paid as Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.		
			£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£ s. d.
1	222	26	13181	2572	327352	22127	2788	108	181	272	71 5 7
2	2268	773	150010	70255	2561089	254923	41537	6340	3743	2018	451 7 3
3	1303	211	97564	22583	1663284	128354	24406	283	1563	721	272 19 8
	3793	1010	260755	95410	4551725	405404	68731	6731	5487	3011	795 12 6
	3610	948	215922	76099	3842781	330174	59396	5159	4938	2108	706 3 11
	183	62	44833	19311	708944	75230	9335	1572	549	903	89 8 7

of various classes of Societies for Year 1918.

		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£ s. d.
3773	982	259665	92271	4519683	402531	68617	6556	5469	2646	791 7 5
..	28	..	3139	11254	1216	114	175	18	..	1 15 9
20	..	1090	..	20788	1657	..	..	..	365	2 9 4
3793	1010	260755	95410	4551725	405404	68731	6731	5187	3011	795 12 6

various classes of Societies for previous Year (1917),

Statistics for tables showing increase of membership, &c.

		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£ s. d.
3610	918	215922	73734	3835863	329861	59301	5127	4932	2106	704 15 4
..	30	..	2365	6918	313	95	32	6	2	1 8 7
3610	948	215922	76099	3842781	330174	59396	5159	4938	2108	706 3 11

WESTERN

**RETURN OF TRADE, &c., of Co-operative Societies in the Counties
HEREFORD, MONMOUTH, MONTGOMERY, PEMBROKE, and Part of**

a These particulars are taken from our last year's return. *b* These particulars are taken
this office or to

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Mem- bers.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, including any Over- draft from Bank.	Re- serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Buildings, Machin- ery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments. House Prop- erty.	All other Invest- ments.	Owing to the Society for Goods.
No. 1—GLOUCESTER AND HEREFORD DISTRICT— Retail Distrib. Societies—		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Bream	194	525	305	571	1165	76	589		1
Cainscross and Ebley	5254	66977	5833	3646	25411	11056	7288	37237	2015
Cinderford	3136	41137	1266	6159	18230	7365	1068	29121	1044
Coln Independent	178	1019	..	488	1247	55	..	611	238
Dumbleton	165	1279	..	382	988	108	..	920	61
Frampton Cotterell	958	13728	1620	928	8360	4243	..	4842	307
Gloucester	16218	322156	10827	19480	65669	47006	34025	234919	244
Hereford	2004	25453	3110	1233	13695	8965	501	9014	1136
Kemble	516	2625	..	512	1240	414	518	1089	274
Llanidloes	428	3263	937	247	2337	1531	334	400	138
Lydney	387	6406	335	526	3263	2131	..	2140	8
Pillowell and Yorkley	505	9033	..	408	4212	736	..	5109	210
South Cerney	146	322	..	228	411	..	..	381	13
Stroud	4103	48843	1715	3149	22645	8723	3433	23730	613
Tortworth	56	174	4	..	347	..	..	60	15
Upper Lydbrook	112	460	469	42	568	624	..	95	104
District Total for 1918	34360	543400	26421	37999	169788	93033	47167	350257	6392
<i>District Total for previous year (1917)</i>	<i>34023</i>	<i>460196</i>	<i>21780</i>	<i>31081</i>	<i>128547</i>	<i>98448</i>	<i>56968</i>	<i>272291</i>	<i>8149</i>
No. 2—BRECON, MONMOUTH, AND EAST GLAMORGAN DISTRICT— Retail Distrib. Societies—									
Aberdare Workmen's	4088	47148	6163	4670	43300	15385	1600	66514	8400
Abergavenny	354	1190	97	186	1028	67	..	615	..
Abersychan and Talywain	3972	38913	10522	4786	32585	16054	10346	5924	79
a Blaenavon	2953	55202	7814	3100	25391	13733	10381	30633	941
Blaina	8520	191207	46380	9619	127762	33311	30489	66935	1444
Brecon	438	2127	98	416	2485	238	..	368	74
Cardiff	4235	12860	13146	729	15680	12035	2738	2926	126
Chepstow	1245	9690	12804	554	13968	12416	..	1274	1280
Cwmbach	8084	117597	18748	12458	113878	23458	13798	11482	6603
Cwmbran & Pontynewydd	455	6591	574	131	4082	2584	..	1403	..
Cwmtillery	1590	23572	4358	2168	23467	6889	346	6846	..
Dowlais	3024	31854	3074	4820	23376	7761	836	12475	695
* Duffryn (Mountain Ash) ..									
Ebbw Vale	4720	56042	9545	1432	28670	15183	5684	27344	600
* Garndiffaith and Varteg ..									
Merthyr and Troedryhiw ..	1798	18386	4094	1180	20295	6884	1183	2584	819
Newport	5794	80615	8414	3386	37081	15188	18774	26222	1321
New Tredegar	3396	33936	12520	2352	37988	7681	3054	2170	7535
Penarth	1419	6840	3379	672	9718	1375	1825	2083	576
* Penrhiwceiber									
Senghenydd & Aber Valley ..	1970	19367	1058	4182	22257	8334	..	574	..

* No recent figures available.

SECTION.

of BRECKNOCK, CARDIGAN, CARMARTHEN, GLAMORGAN, GLOUCESTER, WORCESTER, for 1918, arranged in their respective Counties.

from the Registrar's Return for 1917. These societies have not made a return either to the Registrar.

No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.						
					Net Profit.	In- terest on Share Capital	Aver- age Divi- dend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.		
Distri- butive.	Pro- ductive.	Distri- butive.	Pro- ductive.						Educa- tional Pur- poses.	Chari- table Pur- poses.	Co-operative Union.
		£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.
1	7	1	393	119	10456	1050	23	1 6	..	6	1 0 8
2	107	23	7168	2357	200699	20499	2401	1 11	..	85	27 2 4
3	89	18	6234	1635	167614	15556	1848	1 8	..	48	16 0 5
4	4	1	230	95	6531	759	41	2 1 1/2	..	3	....
5	3	..	209	..	5742	700	57	2 3	19	..	....
6	25	6	2272	572	46950	2414	517	1 0	..	32	4 15 10
7	439	64	32918	6278	640628	73271	10823	2 0 1/2	..	570	78 10 6
8	46	9	3428	1283	63378	4628	1053	1 3	..	20	10 14 0
9	11	4	592	189	15742	1205	124	1 5	..	7	2 14 10
10	5	2	352	116	9309	700	144	1 7 1/2	..	9	1 18 0
11	6	2	549	203	14495	1248	270	1 4	..	9	3 2 1 8
12	12	6	768	380	30936	2146	358	1 3 1/2	..	16	2 5 10
13	2	1	87	67	3527	154	13	0 9 1/2	..	..	0 14 11
14	93	13	7305	1488	146865	15536	1875	1 11	..	120	21 16 8
15	2	..	90	..	1854	26	10	0 10 1/2	..	..	..
16	3	2	235	110	6307	205	21	0 8	..	..	0 11 6
854		152	62830	14892	1271033	140097	19578	..	19	710	959 170 7 2
801		137	52351	12973	1164646	124904	17223	..	..	638	521 156 0 9
1	98	15	7716	1413	219911	21830	1010	2 0	..	64	71 21 2 11
2	5	2	424	156	9391	572	43	1 3	..	10	7 1 14 7
3	141	14	10609	1848	203283	16694	1492	1 6	..	218	30 20 13 8
4	88	20	7711	1836	145150	11777	2168	2 0	..	60	48 15 7 7
5	296	34	25065	4835	572323	49751	5818	1 5 1/2	625	425	216 47 15 8
6	8	2	552	139	12249	1082	90	1 4	..	34	7 2 4 7
7	74	6	5588	923	95179	3838	522	0 8	..	57	49 21 17 6
8	27	4	2577	433	70642	4172	382	1 5	41	41	18 6 7 1
9	281	27	21714	2817	445408	47107	5439	1 8	..	94	143 41 18 8
10	14	3	863	514	29256	1836	295	1 3	..	..	5 2 12 11
11	65	12	4514	1071	104911	8899	853	1 7	123	104	19 8 15 0
12	87	13	7030	1595	158699	10265	1007	1 0	..	65	57 15 4 2
13	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5 7 6
14	111	15	10030	2766	248973	22539	2026	1 10 1/2	..	..	169 22 4 8
15	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3 9 5
16	59	10	4575	1186	112973	6926	573	1 0	..	20	.. 34 10 0 8
17	140	25	9799	2397	202047	13595	2926	1 1	..	65	127 29 14 2
18	102	17	9406	2236	196582	14517	790	1 4 1/2	..	20	91 17 17 8
19	40	3	3162	499	52543	2345	314	0 9 1/2	..	44	.. 7 7 11
20	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
21	48	8	5236	989	118231	11987	439	2 0	..	90	110 11 15 0

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Members.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.					
		Share Capital.	Loans, including any Overdraft from Bank.	Re-serv. Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Bldings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.	
		£	£	£	£	£	House Property.	All other Investments.	£	
BRECON, MONMOUTH, AND EAST GLAMORGAN DISTRICT—Con.										
Trecynon and Cwmdare ..	1090	14182	685	1158	9792	2773	652	4111	1048	22
Tredegar	3043	25419	22271	1721	32524	8198	2703	7027	2073	23
Treharris	1840	21124	3126	3044	19147	6819	2460	3898	9534	24
Ynysybwl	4757	45585	8030	3326	34179	6956	3295	18129	4644	25
Retail Soc's. Total for 1918	69390	859447	196900	66090	678953	223322	110164	301537	38792	
Supply Association :— West Breconshire Farmers	391	2582	3619	24	2933	521	..	610	6724	6
District Total for 1918	69781	862029	200519	66114	681886	223843	110164	302147	45516	
Retail Societies Total for previous year (1917)	68788	779569	135211	58873	495427	223084	128973	239650	35987	
Supply Association Total for previous year (1917)	374	2577	4144	24	2759	576	..	886	6369	
District Total for previous year (1917)	69162	782146	139355	58897	498186	223660	128973	240536	42356	
No. 3—WEST WALES DIST.— Retail Distrib. Societies—										
Abercraze	256	1167	539	639	3622	724	..	221	600	1
Alltwen and Pontardawe ..	2027	15680	5983	2000	12060	4053	712	3122	5230	2
Almanford	1526	18324	704	1719	18770	3533	603	2145	700	3
Blaendulais	259	2059	557	241	4469	445	..	272	550	4
Briton Ferry	1450	12783	3855	896	9682	5382	2449	1654	843	5
Burry Port	637	3717	3693	559	6682	1901	539	1114	250	6
Carmarthen	756	2582	1029	550	2603	1516	..	625	80	7
Craigcfeiparc	147	756	659	594	1309	57	..	64	304	8
Cwmhwrla	610	3013	1608	12	5383	1399	..	694	457	9
Cwmgorse	384	4054	3411	1501	7294	880	556	2224	351	10
Cwmilynfell	254	2417	142	335	3190	670	..	527	507	11
Gorslas	412	5809	1261	676	7104	1136	..	1875	38	12
Llanelli	1497	11542	1789	4421	10676	4022	806	4520	641	13
Llangennech	107	850	..	199	569	..	..	70	94	14
Lower Cwmtwrch	176	1559	969	210	2467	439	..	350	412	15
Neath Abbey and Skewen ..	540	6132	1177	2282	8492	3018	270	787	1274	16
Pembroke Dock	2030	7565	612	1019	6728	3146	..	1853	70	17
Pontardulais	1447	16948	3401	2813	20899	3192	2229	1697	654	18
Pontyberem	479	6469	221	337	7498	1003	..	682	267	19
Porthcawl	222	885	..	285	1025	83	..	195	7	20
Resolven	1030	19388	1042	2209	12611	4046	1058	6742	1486	21
Swansea	4431	27009	17671	1451	29397	10882	5395	3822	1147	22
Trimsaran	196	1198	458	586	2862	156	..	356	279	23
aWhitland	136	307	..	65	247	..	..	79	23	24
Retail Soc's. Total for 1918	21009	172193	50781	25599	185639	51663	14617	35690	16284	
Productive Societies :— Cymmer, Corrwg & Gwynfi										
Baking	79	600	835	160	470	1037	..	123	2	25
aSwansea Printers	81	865	1323	206	326	1685	..	74	477	26
Produc. Soc's. Total for 1918	90	1465	2158	366	796	2722	..	197	479	
District Total for 1918	21099	173658	52939	25965	186435	54385	14617	35887	16743	
Retail Societies Total for previous year (1917)	20618	140020	45290	16473	127812	52429	15303	40914	20574	
Productive Societies Total for previous year (1917)	84	1507	1630	357	621	2681	..	232	477	
District Total for previous year (1917)	20702	141527	46920	18830	128433	55110	15303	41146	21051	

No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.			Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.						
Distributive.	Productive.		Distributive.	Productive.		Net Profit.	Interest on Share Capital	Average Dividend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.		
			£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.
22	24	4	2203	540	35658	6030	436	2 1	..	25	18	5 6 4
23	52	8	6200	1132	152781	9060	642	1 0	..	51	64	17 19 9
24	63	14	4502	1293	111907	12289	624	2 0	..	64	65	8 16 0
25	91	24	8793	2145	231954	22219	1439	1 10	..	220	110	23 19 7
	1914	280	158269	33263	3530051	299330	29328	..	789	1771	1458	369 13 0
26	10	..	1231	..	23848	852	244	..	..	..	7	1 18 6
	1924	280	159500	33263	3553899	300182	29572	..	789	1771	1465	371 11 6
	1776	290	138984	30894	3332491	334631	28996	..	965	1442	1368	327 12 11
	10	..	915	..	24570	169	117	..	..	..	6	1 15 5
	1786	290	139899	30894	3357061	334800	29923	..	965	1442	1374	329 8 4
1	6	1	512	179	14044	682	51	..	..	..	..	..
2	34	17	2992	765	76602	5423	481	1 0	..	43	40	9 9 10
3	39	8	3875	1959	91031	6326	826	1 3	..	..	51	7 16 2
4	9	1	593	37	12556	640	62	..	..	14	..	1 5 0
5	39	5	3026	675	52629	2805	565	1 0	..	13	23	7 3 3
6	10	..	956	..	21980	2007	157	1 7	6	39	16	3 0 6
7	10	..	726	..	19304	1768	91	1 5 1	..	37	15	3 12 0
8	5	..	353	..	7292	668	19	..	..	1	3	0 15 9
9	13	2	918	157	16989	104	129	..	..	10	8	3 5 4
10	9	..	958	..	27888	3404	63	2 0	..	24	12	1 19 7
11	6	2	868	242	14417	1251	97	1 3	..	..	11	1 5 6
12	10	6	969	574	29879	3193	273	2 0	..	10	12	2 0 0
13	29	3	2472	394	53230	4990	419	1 0	..	80	36	8 0 5
14	2	..	215	..	6632	486	5	1 5 1	..	..	..	0 10 10
15	5	..	345	..	8628	668	41	1 0	..	..	4	0 18 3
16	20	3	2017	264	46224	2129	245	1 0	..	24	16	2 18 4
17	30	3	1919	262	39052	2138	365	1 0	..	..	6	10 5 2
18	36	9	2811	845	35160	6910	538	1 6	..	3	23	7 6 8
19	10	2	1083	248	27230	2411	204	1 6	..	..	8	2 7 11
20	5	..	356	..	8842	521	30	1 0	..	4	17	..
21	30	4	3053	561	72272	7224	811	1 6	..	80	19	5 2 1
22	105	18	8552	2392	135292	7796	1060	1 0	..	179	84	24 11 10
23	5	1	418	123	13776	796	8	1 4	..	12	6	0 17 6
24	1	..	148	..	3193	171	10	0 6	..	2	..	..
	468	85	39875	9677	883962	64505	6550	..	6	575	410	104 11 11
25	4	4	520	662	8834	187	31	2 0	..	..	1	..
26	..	12	..	879	2471	109	33	..	..	..	..	0 10 6
	4	16	520	1541	11305	296	64	..	..	..	1	0 10 6
	472	101	40395	11218	895267	64801	6614	..	6	575	411	105 2 5
	434	81	34352	6098	770083	53383	5614	..	186	382	396	93 0 9
	..	18	..	1627	11040	287	65	..	..	..	2	0 10 6
	434	99	34352	7725	781123	58670	5679	..	186	382	398	93 11 3

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Mem- bers.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, includ- ing any Over- draft from Bank.	Re- serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Bldings, Machin- ery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.
							House Prop- erty.	All other Invest- ments.	
No. 4—MID-GLAMORGAN DISTRICT—									
Retail Distrib. Societies—		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
Abergwynfi	571	7445	1290	1758	8430	665	..	589	1147
Afan Valley	595	6892	1833	725	8722	282	466	2781	85
Barry and District	1831	14558	3592	1558	13648	4062	1454	1311	650
Blaengarw	409	5692	1147	842	6563	2252	63	220	811
Bryn	177	1109	264	280	1716	28	..	383	396
Caerau and Maesteg	1314	6865	8437	557	11627	6662	1874	1215	714
†Cwmavon	10	33	..	..	..	..	..	43	..
Cymmer	707	13362	2795	762	13374	3035	837	1123	..
Ferndale	3672	32684	..	21177	37983	15957	1975	8076	4281
Glyncorrwg	576	7565	..	573	6222	7184	..	882	203
†Llanharan	204	735	41	1	1274	76	..	22	3
Mid-Rhondda	4100	24364	14094	5248	41970	7811	2162	2168	275
Nantymoel	2295	35921	2299	1938	31800	6071	930	9800	7247
Pantdu	299	3569	248	1142	3694	297	248	1528	190
Penygraig	3720	25926	9989	2875	35570	7003	1726	2224	3594
Pontrhydyfen	302	3811	271	682	3921	459	..	834	816
Pontycymmer	2097	26066	7889	3216	33975	6547	2071	1868	1782
Pontyrhyl	132	1765	..	254	1276	214	..	254	541
Taibach and Port Talbot ..	2007	19325	3469	2293	22117	7203	454	1753	277
Ton	3936	58029	14279	3196	47214	19710	1282	15556	139
Treorky	2028	19843	569	7800	28223	5021	..	6283	4345
District Total for 1918	30982	315559	72506	56877	359269	100539	15542	58913	27496
District Total for previous year (1917)	29472	255198	51360	48661	220256	91726	18291	100771	31670

† Not commenced trading.

‡ 7 months' trading.

No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.						
					Net Profit.	Interest on Share Capital	Average Dividend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.		
Distributive.	Productive.	Distributive.	Productive.						Educational Purposes.	Charitable Purposes.	Co-operative Union.
		£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.
1	10	2	2308	218	48742	4053	141	1 6	..	15	2 1 8
2	13	1	1353	149	40850	4190	318	1 10	..	10	2 15 0
3	54	7	3935	886	75877	4168	552	1 0	..	17	9 4 10
4	12	3	1189	381	30844	3622	228	2 0	..	8	2 1 8
5	4	1	373	145	13405	598	6	..	..	4	0 10 5
6	42	4	3187	496	71558	3736	70	1 0	..	30	6 5 7
7	..	..	..	..	..	3	7	..	..	..	..
8	22	..	2591	..	61541	5887	591	1 8	..	73	55
9	101	15	9626	1382	370042	9851	230	2 0	..	60	172
10	6	..	1136	..	32977	2977	322	1 11	..	2	2 12 1
11	5	..	188	..	4741	197	16	0 9	..	2	..
12	112	5	10614	772	244876	20195	452	1 7	..	97	18 15 0
13	81	15	7469	2552	184645	17990	1107	1 9	..	105	63
14	7	..	744	..	26817	3150	165	2 14	..	..	1 10 10
15	105	16	9977	2341	255286	21296	573	1 9	..	50	72
16	6	2	568	131	21352	2163	175	1 10 1	..	15	4
17	69	8	5593	975	134668	15002	1122	2 0	..	87	78
18	2	..	301	..	8752	611	62	1 3	..	1	6
19	54	19	4518	1157	122051	11517	843	1 6	..	110	91
20	103	12	8820	1457	216521	14162	1777	1 0	..	147	66
21	56	4	4260	577	117844	9095	460	1 6	..	..	11
864		114	78950	13619	2083773	155363	9217	..	..	795	789
751		125	64382	11389	1682841	175080	7618	..	..	571	506
											116 17 7

SUMMARY OF THE

NAME OF DISTRICT.	No. of Societies.	No. of Mem- bers.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.				
			Share Capital.	Loans, includ- ing any Over- draft from Bank.	Re- serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Buildings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.
								House Property.	All other Investments.	
			£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
No. 1—GLOUCESTER AND HEREFORD	16	34360	543400	26421	37999	169788	93033	47167	350257	6392
„ 2—BRECON, MONMOUTH, AND EAST GLAMOR- GAN	26	69781	862029	200519	66114	681886	223843	110164	302147	45516
„ 3—WEST WALES.....	26	21099	173658	52939	25965	186435	54385	14617	35887	16743
„ 4—MID-GLAMORGAN ..	21	30982	315559	72506	56877	359269	100539	15542	58913	27496
Totals, 1918.....	89	156222	1894646	352385	186955	1397378	471800	187490	747204	96147
Totals, 1917.....	88	153359	1639067	259415	157469	975422	469944	219535	654744	103226
Increase	1	2863	255579	92970	29486	421956	2856	..	92460	..
Decrease .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	32045	..	7079

Summary showing Members, Capital, Trade, &c.,

			£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Retail Distrib. Societies ..	86	155741	1890599	346608	186565	1393649	468557	187490	746397	88944
Productive Societies	2	90	1465	2158	366	796	2722	..	197	479
Supply Association	1	391	2582	3619	24	2933	521	..	610	6724
Total for Section (1918) ..	89	156222	1894646	352385	186955	1397378	471800	187490	747204	96147

Summary showing Members, Capital, Trade, &c., of
given for purposes of comparison. See also Introduction to

			£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Retail Distrib. Socs. Totals for previous year (1917) ..	85	152901	1634983	253641	157088	972042	465687	219535	653626	96380
Productive Societies Totals for previous year (1917) ..	2	84	1507	1630	357	621	2681	..	232	477
Supply Association Totals for previous year (1917) ..	1	374	2577	4144	24	2759	576	..	886	6369
Total for Section for previous year (1917)	88	153359	1639067	259415	157469	975422	468944	219535	654744	103226

WESTERN SECTION.

	No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.					
	Distri- butive.	Pro- ductive.	Distri- butive.	Pro- ductive.		Net Profit.	Interest on Share Capital.	Am't Paid as Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.		
									Educa- tional Pur- poses.	Char- itable Pur- poses.	Co-operative Union.
			£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£ s. d.
1	854	152	62890	14892	1271093	140097	19578	19	710	959	170 7 2
2	1924	280	159500	33263	3553899	900182	29572	789	1771	1465	371 11 6
3	472	101	40395	11218	895267	64801	6614	6	575	411	105 2 5
4	864	114	78950	19619	2083773	155363	9217	..	796	780	132 15 6
	4114	647	341675	72992	7803972	660443	64981	814	3852	3615	779 16 7
	3772	651	290984	62981	6985671	688454	59543	1151	3033	2799	695 17 11
	342	..	50691	10011	818301	..	5438	..	819	816	83 18 8
	..	4	..	..	..	28011	..	337	..	..	..

of various classes of Societies for Year 1918.

		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£ s. d.
4100	631	339924	71451	7768819	659295	64673	814	3852	3607	777 7 7
4	16	520	1541	11305	296	64	..	..	1	0 10 6
10	..	1231	..	23848	852	244	..	..	7	1 18 6
4114	647	341675	72992	7803972	660443	64981	814	3852	3615	779 16 7

various classes of Societies for previous Year (1917),

Statistics for tables showing increases of membership, &c.

		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£ s. d.
3762	633	290069	61354	6950061	687998	59361	1151	3033	2791	693 12 0
..	18	..	1627	11040	287	65	..	..	2	0 10 6
10	..	915	..	24570	169	117	..	..	6	1 15 5
3772	651	290984	62981	6985671	688454	59543	1151	3033	2799	695 17 11

A SUMMARY FOR ALL THE SECTIONS.

NAME OF SECTION.	No. of Societies.	No. of Members.	LIABILITIES.				ASSETS.					
			Share Capital.	Loans, including any Overdraft from Bank.	Reserve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Buildings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.		
								House Property.	All other Investments.			
Ireland (excluding Agricultural, Dairy, Specials, &c.)	49	31955	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
Midland..	207	522011	281211	173308	41344	304968	123042	12383	83516	131612	1	
Northern	139	439653	7527147	1210667	671603	3634316	2563783	1154801	3073255	311518	2	
North-Western	451	1433174	7249320	806396	442949	2964302	1689926	1049909	3592908	291283	3	
Scottish.....	276	590710	25907598	11065020	5898868	17631390	9566115	4316997	14330669	2711979	4	
Southern	185	552245	9125412	6266320	2407460	6639248	3264886	800001	9129972	1162670	5	
South-Western	78	169829	5925434	848128	601962	3086737	2069603	464090	2659118	126183	6	
Western	89	156222	1564010	213638	207779	883481	740931	148512	409430	27888	7	
			1894646	352385	186955	1397378	471300	187490	747204	96147	8	
Totals for 1918	1474	3894999	59474778	20998872	10453920	36542920	20489486	8134133	34026072	4859280		
Totals for 1917	1478	3835576	53478456	15066692	9217294	26300078	19861857	8734530	29806720	4768672		
Increase .....	..	59623	5996322	5931680	1236626	10242242	627629	..	4219852	90608	
Decrease	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	600397	..	..

DETAILED SUMMARY SHOWING SOCIETIES OF VARIOUS TYPES.

	No. of Societies.	No. of Members.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.					
			Share Capital.	Loans, including any Overdraft from Bank.	Reserve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Buildings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.	
								House Property.	All other Investments.		
Distributive Societies	1364	3846531	£ 54039225	£ 7355483	£ 4343272	£ 23488587	£ 15247115	£ 7915474	£ 26287428	£ 1380234	1
Distributive Federations ..	5	61	31461	118	1979	3729	1199	1714	3391	6703	2
Productive Societies	95	37393	1181906	792573	446296	874823	676949	86660	941470	460915	3
Supply Associations	3	8349	353497	93558	129639	352365	200384	24741	88223	57831	4
Special Societies	4	693	20790	39841	915718	995	23719	55495	945128	34082	5
English Wholesale Socy.— Distributive	1	1200	3195737	2251898	3472098	5106533	1917582	4618	3013446	2277093	6
Productive .....	..	..	..	6449806	..	3920710	1675121	..	..	..	7
Scottish Wholesale Socy.— Distributive	1	261	621187	2698578	1134068	1638047	473239	45431	2711674	555197	8
Productive .....	..	..	..	1231531	..	1077028	274178	..	..	..	9
Irish Agricultural Whole- sale Society	1	511	25975	90486	10850	79503	..	..	4712	87225	10
Totals for 1918	1474	3894999	59474778	20998872	10453920	36542320	20489486	8134133	34026072	4859280	
“ Totals for 1917	1478	38853976	53478456	15066692	9217294	26300078	19661857	8734530	29800720	4768672	

DETAILED SUMMARY SHOWING SOCIETIES OF VARIOUS TYPES.—Continued.

CLASSIFIED SUMMARY OF THE SOCIETIES.

743

No. of Employees on December 31st.			Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the year.	PROFIT.				Subscriptions.		
	Distributive.	Pro- ductive.	Distributive.	Pro- ductive.	£	£	Net Profit. £	Interest on Share Capital. £	Amount Paid as Bonus on Wages. £	£	Charitable Purposes. £	Co-operative Union. £ s. d.
1	95535	26004	7793603	2507929	155161963	£	16495645	2230275	56581	124296	119605	19231 15 9
2	15	16	1479	1399	121597		7637	1547	..	..	19	4 3 0
3	765	8980	105140	807645	5714041	*	398602	45217	44509	3350	5379	217 7 0
4	1647	158	155859	21982	1763450		58122	386	..	..	103	41 5 11
5	593	..	50092	..	620947		26503	2029	233	5	366	27 9 4
6	3796	..	536323	..	65167960		+160538	154931	..	135	11332 *	600 0 0
7	..	20304	..	1992814	+17729568		\$253981	1197680	..	..	..	..
8	1475	..	213425	..	19519485		409394	30443	9348	..	6974	132 0 0
9	..	6819	..	584085	+5942528		138599	113302	..	..	..	..
10	156	..	17109	..	914342		7527	1300	..	1000	..	3 0 0
	101982	62401	8819030	5915254	248983685		17702567	2463078	110771	128786	149228	20257 1 0
	101099	61404	7210239	4876614	224913795		13194600	2236816	103267	122596	110639	18923 10 2

* Total profits of societies showing a profit. Some societies showed a loss, the total being \$306. † Also included in distributive sales. ‡ This amount is the balance of profit of productive and distributive departments together. § Profit from productive departments. || Charged to productive works for capital. The productive profits are the amounts before deducting this interest. ¶ For comparison of the various types of societies with the figures of 1917 see summary given in the Introduction to these statistics.

RETURNS RELATING TO

a These particulars are taken from our last year's returns. *b* These particulars are taken
this office or to

OBJECT OF MANUFACTURE.	NAME OF SOCIETY.	
ENGLAND AND WALES.		
(A) Cotton, Linen, Silk, & Wool.	Corsets	Kettering Corset Manufacturing 1
	Cotton Cloth	Burnley Self-Help Manufacturing 2
	Hosiery	Kirkby-in-Ashfield Manufacturers 3
	"	Wigston Hosiers 4
	Ready-made Clothing.....	Kettering Clothing 5
	"	Ideal Clothiers (Wellingborough) 6
	"	London Clothiers 7
	Quilts, Table Covers, &c.	Eccles Manufacturing 8
	Silk Twist	Leek Silk Twist Manufacturing..... 9
	Worsted and Wool	Macclesfield Silk 10
	"	Thomson, Wm., and Sons Limited (Huddersfield). 11
	"	Airedale Worsted Manufacturing (Bradford) 12
Total		
(B) Leather Workers.	Boots and Shoes	Avalon (Rothwell) Boot and Shoe 13
	"	Chesham Boot and Shoe 14
	"	Crompton (Desborough) Boot and Shoe 15
	"	Excelsior (Sileby) Boot and Shoe 16
	"	Finedon Boot and Shoe 17
	"	Glenfield Boot and Shoe 18
	"	Higham Ferrers Boot and Shoe 19
	"	Kettering Boot and Shoe 20
	"	Kettering Union Boot and Shoe 21
	"	Leicester Anchor Boot and Shoe 22
	"	Leicester Equity Boot and Shoe 23
	"	Leicester Self-Help Boot and Shoe 24
	"	Midland (Wellingborough) Boot and Shoe 25
	"	Nantwich Boot and Shoe 26
	"	Northamptonshire Productive (Wollaston) 27
	"	Pioneer Co-operative Boot..... 28
	"	Ringstead Unity 29
	"	St. Crispin Productive (Raunds)..... 30
	"	"Sperope" Boot and Shoe (Barwell) 31
Total		

PRODUCTIVE SOCIETIES 1918.

from the Registrar's Returns for 1917. c These societies have not made a return either to the Registrar.

	No. of Mem- bers.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.					No. of Em- ployees on Dec. 31st.	Salaries and Wages.
		Share Capital.	Loans, including any Overdraft from Bank.	Reserve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, B'ldings, Machin- ery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.		
							House Prop- erty.	All other Invest- ments.			
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1	439	16935	1964	3344	22144	3300	300	1051	3477	215	12082
2	301	11667	26317	..	25625	11073	..	1231	5624	115	7549
3	328	10353	13353	4148	24153	3143	..	6158	9238	122	7273
4	520	15605	3056	5968	11198	5187	..	9519	5681	64	5209
5	1459	30698	24828	32286	90199	16300	235	2214	107643	929	59096
6	1355	28861	9655	37515	86190	23883	..	22565	12580	860	58308
7	118	1790	412	471	2956	102	..	416	896	19	2764
8	247	16165	8819	3929	12268	10459	..	7023	2980	78	4908
9	124	10256	13929	2489	8670	3750	..	7728	22969	112	11870
10	227	8648	10099	833	10940	3798	..	3549	6137	113	10720
11	424	14873	11464	2900	11574	614	..	9504	14292	94	12687
12	497	8061	2402	2222	10177	272	..	6289	3374	25	2087
	6039	173912	126298	96105	316034	81881	535	77247	194831	2746	194553

RETURNS RELATING TO

a These particulars are taken from our last year's returns. *b* These particulars are taken this office or to

OBJECT OF MANUFACTURE.	NAME OF SOCIETY.	
ENGLAND AND WALES.		
(a) <i>Cotton, Linen, Silk, & Wool.</i>	Corsets	Kettering Corset Manufacturing 1
	Cotton Cloth	Burnley Self-Help Manufacturing 2
	Hosiery	Kirkby-in-Ashfield Manufacturers 3
	"	Wigston Hosiers 4
	Ready-made Clothing	Kettering Clothing 5
	"	Ideal Clothiers (Wellingborough) 6
	"	London Clothiers 7
	Quilts, Table Covers, &c:	Eccles Manufacturing 8
	Silk Twist	Leek Silk Twist Manufacturing 9
	"	Macclesfield Silk 10
	Worsted and Wool	Thomson, Wm., and Sons Limited (Huddersfield) 11
	"	Airedale Worsted Manufacturing (Bradford) 12
Total		
(b) <i>Leather Workers.</i>	Boots and Shoes	Avalon (Rothwell) Boot and Shoe 13
	"	Chesham Boot and Shoe 14
	"	Crompton (Desborough) Boot and Shoe 15
	"	Excelsior (Sileby) Boot and Shoe 16
	"	Finedon Boot and Shoe 17
	"	Glenfield Boot and Shoe 18
	"	Higham Ferrers Boot and Shoe 19
	"	Kettering Boot and Shoe 20
	"	Kettering Union Boot and Shoe 21
	"	Leicester Anchor Boot and Shoe 22
	"	Leicester Equity Boot and Shoe 23
	"	Leicester Self-Help Boot and Shoe 24
	"	Midland (Wellingborough) Boot and Shoe 25
	"	Nantwich Boot and Shoe 26
	"	Northamptonshire Productive (Wollaston) 27
	"	Pioneer Co-operative Boot 28
	"	Ringstead Unity 29
	"	St. Crispin Productive (Raunds) 30
	"	" Sperope " Boot and Shoe (Barwell) 31
Total		

PRODUCTIVE SOCIETIES, 1918.

from the Registrar's Returns for 1917. c These societies have not made a return either to the Registrar.

	Sales during the Year.	Profits during the Year.	Share Interest	NET PROFIT (after paying share interest stated): HOW DIVIDED.							
				To Capital.		To Labour.		To Purchaser.		Subscriptions	
				Amount Paid.	Rate per cent.	Amount Paid.	Rate per £ on Wages.	Amount Paid.	Rate per £.	Educational Purposes	Charitable Purposes
	£	£	£	£		£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	£
1	83000	3744	681	170	2½	980	2 0	1248	0 6	125	102
2	137642	2970	496	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
3	100934	7420	417	206	2½	619	2 4½	1119	0 10½	52	124
4	79280	6909	722	130	10	353	2 6	526	0 4	88	33
5	304082	29246	1389	1252	3 9/16	4344	2 2½	7057	1 0	250	384
6	248862	27529	1387	1387	5	2231	2 0	10917	1 0	300	543
7	7886	666	88	..	..	141	..	..	0 9	..	17
8	48199	1878	1022	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	17
9	101059	6952	492	984	15	751	1 6	..	..	..	38
10	39585	3583	432	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
11	85369	4828	743	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	57
12	82470	1902	394	399	2½	83	0 6	916	0 6	..	61
	1269318	97627	8263	4528	..	9502	..	21783	..	815	1377
13	140885	8138	393	193	5	4050	..	..	..	..	250
14	29671	985	188	178	5	367	0 6	318	0 3	40	113
15	48797	1717	250	..	..	..	..	..	..	40	..
16	51906	4483	186	200	5	1274	3 0	942	0 5	189	..
17	45269	4288	263	505	10	872	..	..	..	..	52
18	91052	2057	173	110	1½	408	2 2	487	0 4½	50	56
19	39139	1704	944	92	0½	478	0 9	512	0 6	..	10
20	124952	8262	560	1015	6½	1761	1 3	1944	0 5	125	140
21	37232	1596	182	161	5	435	..	649	..	40	192
22	58324	3314	490	..	..	..	..	..	..	100	..
23	130898	10658	633	298	1½	1807	2 3½	2711	0 5	140	200
24	44221	2476	199	213	6½	152	1 0	375	0 2	35	8
25	84878	4639	391	516	5	1241	1 9	2174	0 10½	104	55
26	6925	536	67	30	2½	144	2 3	73	0 3	..	2
27	47359	3528	178	178	5	536	1 3½	349	0 4	20	..
28	9957	648	84	84	5	85	0 9½	167	0 4	15	..
29	43516	337	441	326	10	..	..	..	..	..	11
30	96626	8021	370	369	5	4498	..	4477	..	..	..
31	51744	5957	596	207	5	1035	2 6	1183	0 6	60	48
	1123351	73844	5928	4675	..	19138	..	16341	..	958	1137

OBJECT OF MANUFACTURE.	NAME OF SOCIETY.	
ENGLAND AND WALES—Continued.		
(c) Metal Workers.	Needles	Alcester Needle Makers. 32
	Cutlery	*Sheffield Trade-union Sheep Shear Manufac. 33
	Locks, &c.	Walsall Locks and Cart Gear 34
	Clog Iron and Sundries	Calderdale Clog Sundries Manufacturing (Walsden) 35
	Total	
(d) Wood Workers.	Cabinet Making, &c.	Bolton Cabinet Makers 36
	"	Bradford 37
	"	Newcastle-on-Tyne Household Furnishing. 38
	"	Midland Wood Workers. 39
	Carriage Builders	Leicester Carriage Builders and Wheelwrights .. 40
Total		
(e) Building, &c.	Building, &c.	dCoventry Builders. 41
	"	Lincoln Land and Building 42
	"	Oxford Builders. 43
	"	aWood Workers Limited (Letchworth). 44
	Total	
(f) Printing and Bookbinding.	Bookbinding	Bookbinders (London) 45
	Printing	Birmingham Printers 46
	"	Blackpool Union Printers. 47
	"	Bristol Printers. 48
	"	Co-operative Newspaper (Manchester). 49
	"	Co-operative Printing (Manchester). 50
	"	aDerby Printers 51
	"	aGarden City Press (Letchworth). 52
	"	Hull Printers 53
	"	King's Cross Publishing (London). 54
	"	Leicester Printers. 55
	"	Long Eaton Printers 56
	"	Nottingham Printers 57
	"	Plymouth Printers 58
	"	Portsmouth Printers 59
	"	aSwansea Printers. 60
Total		

PRODUCTIVE SOCIETIES, 1918.

749

	No. of Mem- bers.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.					No. of Em- ployees on Dec. 31st.	Salaries and Wages.
		Share Capital.	Loans, including any Overdraft from Bank.	Reserve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, B'ldings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.		
		£	£	£	£	£	House Prop- erty.	All other Invest- ments.	£		£
32	168	1832	300	..	1480	475	..	307	638	16	928
33	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
34	276	9822	3853	8056	12386	5366	315	12016	12816	290	32517
35	149	1758	348	950	276	1052	..	2181	324	8	809
	593	13412	4501	9006	14142	6893	315	14504	13778	314	34254
36	60	1566	1526	1528	2904	362	..	81	2201	45	4563
37	75	3191	3474	67	4580	2044	..	254	305	16	1794
38	120	6363	26043	978	5298	30029	..	478	3727	65	5718
39	54	595	149	100	860	46	..	6	508	7	822
40	113	1711	3663	612	4673	2591	..	3	999	32	3802
	422	13426	34861	3285	18915	35072	..	822	7740	165	16699
41	12	134	668	..	82	498	..	28	23	1	65
42	627	5370	51852	4086	345	514	48482	12102	923	4	740
43	40	547	406	82	170	146	414	190	194	5	485
44	7	8430	18129	..	2427	10452	..	6099	8443	2	196
	686	14481	71055	4168	3024	11610	48896	18419	9583	12	1486
45	79	341	..	14	210	53	..	214	115	5	459
46	269	14523	2210	1268	1834	12080	..	3839	5505	70	8527
47	140	1154	991	169	753	652	..	261	1006	21	2001
48	68	801	418	274	770	443	..	764	345	9	1114
49	860	11227	5939	295	2375	8221	..	4515	5796	52	8408
50	753	23644	..	34683	49809	13902	..	16028	26265	427	44730
51	72	1165	1836	798	403	2767	..	587	366	10	793
52	188	8852	11086	250	3091	12898	..	436	2914	71	5501
53	64	2251	2506	3267	1177	6272	..	699	983	26	2083
54	8	150	1000	1500	10	..	..	2173	1263	7	867
55	432	9985	11672	2993	12591	8922	..	6593	8081	105	14374
56	27	526	..	93	474	107	..	167	190	4	622
57	108	751	477	332	548	847	..	736	246	7	914
58	219	1707	1146	332	1800	1927	..	80	1578	19	2025
59	103	408	859	..	87	1010	..	214	227	5	473
60	81	865	1323	206	326	1685	..	74	477	12	879
	2971	78300	41463	46474	76258	71286	..	87380	55357	850	93770

OBJECT OF MANUFACTURE.	NAME OF SOCIETY.	
ENGLAND AND WALES—Continued.		
(c) Metal Workers.	Needles.....	Alcester Needle Makers 32
	Cutlery.....	*Sheffield Trade-union Sheep Shear Manufac. 33
	Locks, &c.....	Walsall Locks and Cart Gear 34
	Clog and Iron Sundries	Calderdale Clog Sundries Manufac. (Walsden).... 35
	Total	
(d) Wood Workers.	Cabinet Making, &c.	Bolton Cabinet Makers 36
	"	Bradford " 37
	"	Newcastle-on-Tyne Household Furnishing..... 38
	"	Midland Wood Workers..... 39
	Carriage Builders.....	Leicester Carriage Builders and Wheelwrights .. 40
Total		
(e) Building, &c.	Building, &c.	dCoventry Builders..... 41
	"	Lincoln Land and Building 42
	"	Oxford Builders..... 43
	"	aWood Workers Limited (Letchworth)..... 44
	Total	
(f) Printing and Bookbinding.	Bookbinding	Bookbinders (London) 45
	Printing	Birmingham Printers..... 46
	"	Blackpool Union Printers..... 47
	"	Bristol Printers..... 48
	"	Co-operative Newspaper (Manchester) 49
	"	Co-operative Printing (Manchester) 50
	"	aDerby Printers 51
	"	aGarden City Press (Letchworth) 52
	"	Hull Printers 53
	"	King's Cross Publishing (London)..... 54
	"	Leicester Printers 55
	"	Long Eaton Printers 56
	"	Nottingham Printers 57
	"	Plymouth Printers 58
	"	Portsmouth Printers 59
	"	aSwansea Printers 60
Total		

	Sales during the Year.	Profits during the Year.	Share Interest.	NET PROFIT (after paying share interest stated): HOW DIVIDED.							
				To Capital.		To Labour.		To Purchaser.		Subscriptions.	
				Amount Paid.	Rate per cent.	Amount Paid.	Rate per £ on Wages.	Amount Paid.	Rate per £.	Educational Purposes.	Charitable Purposes.
	£	£	£	£		£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	£
32	8818	637	91	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
33	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
34	74750	5925	709	80	1½	..	..	..	..	108	50
35	3883	737	88	..	..	38	1 0	190	1 0	..	11
	87451	7299	888	80	..	38	..	190	..	108	61
36	9973	780	72	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
37	3882	83	79	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
38	18634	260	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
39	2095	201	22	30	5	21	1 0	11	1 0	..	2
40	16918	396	84	84	5	..	..	..	..	..	..
	51502	†1637	257	114	..	21	..	11	..	..	4
41	113	£10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
42	1472	629	410	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
43	828	89	26	26	5	..	..	10	0 3	1	2
44	2708	643	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	5121	†1361	436	26	..	..	..	10	..	1	2
45	903	63	..	..	..	..	..	..	1 0	..	..
46	30031	4429	654	1144	8½	1091	3 0	979	1 0	75	78
47	5748	162	54	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
48	3136	599	36	34	..	82	1 0	..	..	10	..
49	35586	796	484	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	38
50	235138	29266	1178	1162	5	2176	1 0	4933	2 0	..	426
51	3152	315	57	9	..	27	0 10	112	0 10	8	9
52	12091	£213	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
53	5796	675	112	89	5	42	0 6	..	..	..	..
54	7053	308	86	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
55	73534	3667	472	242	2½	876	1 3	1080	0 3½	225	90
56	1684	228	42	16	..	50	..	83	..	6	6
57	2482	444	38	75	5	44	1 0	99	1 0	12	..
58	8118	617	78	..	..	93	0 11	69	0 2	8	..
59	1716	105	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
60	2471	109	33	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	428639	‡41783	3324	2771	..	4481	..	7355	..	344	652

e Loss.

† Before deducting the loss of £83.

‡ Before deducting the loss of £10.

§ Before deducting the loss of £213.

OBJECT OF MANUFACTURE.		NAME OF SOCIETY.	
ENGLAND AND WALES—Continued.			
(g) Corn Milling.	Corn Milling	Derwent Flour Mills	61
	"	Northallerton Corn Mill	62
	"	Sherston Milling	63
		Total	
(h) Baking.	Baking	Alfred Joint Stock Bread and Flour	64
	"	Jacksdale Co-operative Baking	65
	"	Co-operative Bakeries (West Stanley)	66
	"	Cymmer, Corrwg, and Gwynfi Baking	67
	"	Greenwich Bread and Flour	68
	"	Swindon Provident	69
	Total		
(i) Laundries.	Laundries	Dewsbury	70
	"	Hyde	71
	"	Keighley	72
	"	Manchester and District	73
	"	Newcastle	74
	"	North-East Lancashire	75
	"	Rochdale and District	76
	Total		
(j) Various.	Bass Dressers	London Bass Dressers	77
	General	Brandsby Agricultural Trading	78
	Grocery Sundries, &c.	Co-operative Sundries (Droylsden)	79
	"	Morning Star Sundries (Leicester)	80
	Mineral Water Manufacturers	Licensed Trade Supply (Coventry)	81
		Total	
SCOTLAND.			
(A) Cotton and Wool.—Woollen & Cotton		Paisley Manufacturing	82
(F) Printing and Bookbinding.—Printing		Edinburgh Printing	83
" " "		Glasgow Civic Press	84
" " "		" Scottish Newspaper	85
		Total	
(ii) Baking		Auchterarder Baking	86
"		Bainsford and Grahamston Baking	87
"		Burntisland Bread	88
"		Carronshore Baking	89
"		Chapelhall Federated Baking	90
"		Glasgow United Baking (Glasgow)	91
"		Hamilton Baking	92

	No. of Mem- bers.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.					No. of Em- ployees on Dec. 31st.	Salaries and Wages.
		Share Capital.	Loans, including any overdraft from Bank.	Reserve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Bldings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.		
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£		£
61	h10	18777	25509	..	19749	10322	..	15644	127	50	6878
62	473	1709	..	..	382	2794	..	1013	988	2	155
63	50	514	463	212	159	704	..	131	651	2	139
	533	21000	25972	212	20290	13820	..	16788	1766	54	7172
64	613	3581	2187	400	612	5745	..	401	538	8	1592
65	2	800	..	145	114	418	..	768	..	5	491
66	h5	1711	4771	1100	1038	2836	..	1823	2309	21	1839
67	h9	600	835	160	470	1037	..	123	2	4	662
68	60	685	49	214	69	550	150	246	..	3	105
69	3402	5510	950	883	1671	5057	..	120	4073	12	1422
	4091	12887	8792	2902	3974	15643	150	3481	6922	53	6111
70	10	9483	2544	699	499	3319	..	3159	508	51	3320
71	7	3564	1960	..	1044	4555	..	331	178	75	4455
72	17	5220	1773	80	1180	5629	..	216	363	40	3140
73	h15	20970	12189	261	..	29890	..	2658	2949	200	14611
74	59	20835	34613	3104	3354	18796	..	35422	2367	216	11393
75	13	4609	2000	200	682	5919	..	239	41	57	3955
76	h20	7000	7675	250	1803	14125	..	49	153	74	5623
	141	65581	62754	4594	8562	82233	..	42074	6559	713	46437
77	65	819	..	2811	653	..	..	4163	1831	21	2863
78	352	5068	821	826	2657	1779	..	1914	3659	20	1714
79	518	25327	6627	6400	26698	11299	..	3117	11792	150	12391
80	412	20048	21381	1470	8960	33183	..	2429	8485	24	3181
81	131	1537	848	2250	1181	2040	..	2495	182	7	803
	1478	52799	29677	13757	40149	48301	..	14118	25949	222	20952
82	7743	84809	90484	12244	82690	33880	12820	70501	25296	360	32926
83	150	10000	7301	3000	2073	13929	..	271	5280	80	6852
84	155	1775	508	2338	1209	730	..	1454	2283	23	2702
85	h70	217	157	214	..	..	..	1389	921	2	360
	375	11992	7966	5552	3282	14659	..	3114	8484	105	9914
86	420	2007	53	224	296	984	..	1272	79	3	368
87	4659	42854	987	2812	1379	11624	1880	34916	2057	57	7399
88	276	384	169	1000	197	945	500	8	..	3	437
89	347	2626	202	263	305	1052	..	1683	613	4	464
90	7	1030	16948	1199	2274	4099	221	11670	942	20	2642
91	h211	464947	86031	122260	42538	181090	20410	441545	2-083	1138	112322
92	7	8953	56219	3387	5743	7915	658	54527	1369	55	7587

OBJECT OF MANUFACTURE.		NAME OF SOCIETY.		
ENGLAND AND WALES—Continued.				
(G) <i>Corn Milling</i>	{	Corn Milling	Derwent Flour Mills	61
		"	Northallerton Corn Mill	62
		"	Sherston Milling	63
		Total		
(H) <i>Baking</i>	{	Baking	Alfred Joint Stock Bread and Flour	64
		"	Jacksdale Co-operative Baking	65
		"	Co-operative Bakeries (West Stanley)	66
		"	Cymmer, Corrwg, and Gwynfi Baking	67
		"	Greenwich Bread and Flour	68
		"	Swindon Provident	69
Total				
(I) <i>Laundries</i>	{	Laundries	Dewsbury	70
		"	Hyde	71
		"	Keighley	72
		"	Manchester and District	73
		"	Newcastle	74
		"	North-East Lancashire	75
		"	Rochdale and District	76
Total				
(J) <i>Various</i>	{	Bass Dressers	London Bass Dressers	77
		General	Brandsby Agricultural Trading	78
		Grocery Sundries, &c.	Co-operative Sundries (Droylsden)	79
		"	Morning Star Sundries (Leicester)	80
		Mineral Water Manufacturers	Licensed Trade Supply (Coventry)	81
		Total		
SCOTLAND.				
(A) <i>Cotton and Wool</i> —	Woollen & Cotton	Paisley Manufacturing	82	
(F) <i>Printing and Bookbinding</i> —	Printing	Edinburgh Printing	83	
"	"	Glasgow Civic Press	84	
"	"	" Scottish Newspaper	85	
Total				
(H) <i>Baking</i>		Auchterarder Baking	86	
"		Bainsford and Grahamston Baking	87	
"		Burntisland Bread	88	
"		Carronshore Baking	89	
"		Chapelhall Federated Baking	90	
"		Glasgow United Baking (Glasgow)	91	
"		Hamilton Baking	92	

	Sales during the Year.	Profits during the Year.	Share Interest	NET PROFIT (after paying share interest stated): HOW DIVIDED.							
				To Capital.		To Labour.		To Purchaser.		Subscriptions.	
				Amount Paid.	Rate per cent.	Amount Paid.	Rate per £ on Wages.	Amount Paid.	Rate per £.	Educational Purposes.	Charitable Purposes.
61	£ 252719	£ 2378	£ 939	£ ..	..	£ ..	s. d. ..	£ 1000	s. d. 0 2	£ ..	£ 16
62	8341	158	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
63	5129	100	28	..	..	..	..	73	0 6	..	..
	266189	2636	962	..	..	..	..	1073	..	..	16
64	27677	2355	192	..	..	..	..	2128	1 6½	..	4
65	5554	309	40	..	..	..	..	144	0 9	..	..
66	20460	180	86	..	..	..	..	272	0 9	..	..
67	9834	187	91	..	..	..	..	317	2 0	..	1
68	1811	79	32	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
69	38908	6161	253	281	5	..	..	6158	3 0	..	7
	108144	9221	634	281	..	..	..	9019	..	..	12
70	6604	977	174	..	..	..	..	316	1 0	..	5
71	9683	270	89	..	..	..	..	160	1 0	..	..
72	7004	538	256	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
73	28583	1767	1049	..	..	..	..	1928	1 9	..	..
74	32462	2128	891	..	..	..	..	1154	0 9	..	5
75	8220	315	225	..	..	..	..	342	..	..	29
76	12487	1689	350	..	..	..	..	1184	2 0	..	..
	105048	7684	3034	..	..	..	..	5084	..	..	41
77	12184	2218	30	..	..	927	..	..	..	..	17
78	75941	1416	288	..	..	..	..	505	1 0	..	27
79	128741	8369	1889	630	2½	738	1 6	3390	0 7½	..	97
80	75611	3627	650	100	..	92	..	..	..	40	21
81	7164	756	76	116	5½	35	..	..	..	..	1
	299591	16386	2883	846	..	1792	..	3895	..	40	163
82	389579	19072	3853	..	..	925	0 6	3097	0 6	..	607
83	15313	536	450	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	17
84	6401	361	89	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	17
85	6811	486	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	20
	28525	1383	550	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	54
86	5388	596	89	..	..	..	..	543	2 3	..	5
87	99026	13876	1587	..	..	..	..	11907	2 8	66	131
88	3349	147	64	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
89	6226	1227	89	..	..	2	..	916	..	..	2
90	48835	5815	51	692	5	..	..	5526	2 10	..	107
91	1265436	87424	11549	..	..	8610	1 0	57915	1 0	1008	836
92	92834	7132	418	2761	4	..	..	5716	1 3½	..	151

OBJECT OF MANUFACTURE	NAME OF SOCIETY.	
<i>SCOTLAND—Continued.</i>		
(H) Baking	Kettle Baking	98
"	Newburgh and Mount Pleasant Baking	94
	Total	
(I) Laundry	Scottish Laundry (Barrhead)	95
<i>ENGLISH WHOLESALE SOCIETY.</i>		
(A) Flannel	Littleborough	96
(A) Hosiery	Huthwaite	97
(A) Corsets	Desborough	98
(A) Shirt Factories	Broughton, Pelaw, and Sheffield	99
(A) Woollens	Batley	100
(A) Weaving Sheds	Bury, Chorley, and Radcliffe	101
(A) Clothing Factories	Broughton, Crewe, Hebden Bridge, Leeds, and Pelaw	102
(B) Boot and Shoe Works	Grappenhall, Heckmondwike, Leicester, and Rushden	103
(C) Iron Works	Keighley	104
(C) Hardware	Dudley	105
(C) Tinplate	Birtley	106
(D) Cabinet Works	Broughton and Pelaw	107
(F) Printing Works	Longsight, Leicester, and Pelaw	108
(G) Flour Mills	Avonmouth, Dunston, Halifax, Hull, Oldham, Silvertown, Slaithwaite, Sowerby Bridge, and Trafford Park	109
(J) Biscuits, Sweets, &c.	Crumpsall	110
(J) Preserves, Pickles, &c.	Middleton	111
(J) Soap, &c.	Dunston, Irlam, and Silvertown	112
(J) Tobacco	Manchester	113
(J) Lard	Hartlepool	114
(J) Brushes	Leeds	115
(J) Paints	Rochdale	116
(J) Creameries	Tralee and two auxiliaries	117
(J) Farms	Adlingfleet, Coldham, Compton Bassett, Clitheroe, Crewe, Down Ampney, Marden, and Roden	118
(J) Margarine	Higher Irlam	119
(J) Colliery	Shilbottle	120
	Total	
<i>SCOTTISH WHOLESALE SOCIETY.</i>		
(A) Woollen and Clothing	Shieldhall (Glasgow), Ettrick, and Galston Mills ..	121
(B) Leather, Boots and Shoes	Shieldhall (Glasgow)	122
(D) Cabinet, Brush, Saddlery, & Tinware	"	123
(F) Printing and Bookbinding	"	124
(G) Corn Milling, &c.	Chancelot, Junction, and Regent Flour Mills, Edinburgh and Glasgow	125
(J) Various— Preserves, Confections, Chemicals, Pickles, and Coffee	Shieldhall (Glasgow)	126
Tobacco	"	127
Miscellaneous	"	128
Soap	Grangemouth	129
	Total	

PRODUCTIVE SOCIETIES, 1918.

757

	No. of Mem- bers.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.					No. of Em- ployees on Dec. 31st.	Salaries and Wages.
		Share Capital.	Loans, including any Overdraft from Bank.	Reserve Fond.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Buildings, Machin- ery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.		
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£		£
93	593	1522	25	263	379	680	..	1138	35	6	520
94	377	739	..	100	154	235	..	1297	6	4	403
	6867	524462	160634	131508	53565	208627	23669	548056	33184	1290	132082
95	479	5065	12775	2852	1282	10293	..	8454	1433	157	9708
96	92360	..	53628	43558	..	..	..	231	13838
97	104810	..	56645	28152	..	..	..	684	43958
98	69432	..	58777	7374	..	..	..	423	25304
99	159345	..	92829	46124	..	..	..	1087	64206
100	38118	..	29388	3835	..	..	..	237	22877
101	191432	..	122324	63254	..	..	..	643	46312
102	229182	..	147731	73127	..	..	..	1970	156072
103	520954	..	379110	92430	..	..	..	2164	208948
104	11194	..	3849	4349	..	..	..	83	10445
105	17840	..	7538	8944	..	..	..	107	12210
106	7550	..	1562	1053	..	..	..	22	2442
107	82378	..	78929	10298	..	..	..	378	39562
108	193956	..	127221	22184	..	..	..	1307	130567
109	2428141	..	1087631	552022	..	..	..	1203	203263
110	104264	..	33163	23894	..	..	..	548	41444
111	588514	..	529353	132566	..	..	..	1369	123572
112	670372	..	553970	87037	..	..	..	1525	145849
113	246495	..	231252	9839	..	..	..	838	65628
114	37470	..	14857	2465	..	..	..	18	2445
115	31983	..	25799	5333	..	..	..	140	18438
116	19988	..	22106	1827	..	..	..	27	2730
117	351	..	172	..	..	..	..	10	1020
118	325609	..	139247	314443	..	..	..	369	34738
119	251890	..	92662	118359	..	..	..	339	36686
120	25738	..	67	22654	..	..	..	325	50060
	6449306	..	3920710	1675121	..	..	..	11. 16047	11. 1502619
121	280431	..	245314	73325	..	..	..	2181	160066
122	103437	..	78174	11423	..	..	..	935	85585
123	71665	..	59290	26552	..	..	..	303	36481
124	64745	..	52335	31498	..	..	..	334	31719
125	348589	..	284870	57469	..	..	..	280	51124
126	130221	..	174738	21484	..	..	..	741	55869
127	46549	..	57710	438	..	..	..	214	12650
128	101994	..	64714	36902	..	..	..	372	35880
129	83900	..	85883	14987	..	..	..	151	16149
	111. 1338	111. 98562
	1231531	..	1077028	274178	..	..	..	6849	534085

11. In Purchasing Depôts, Shipping and Building Departments, Creameries, &c.
Branches and Service Departments.

111. Buying

OBJECT OF MANUFACTURE.

NAME OF SOCIETY.

SCOTLAND—Continued.

(H) Baking	Kettle Baking.....	98
"	Newburgh and Mount Pleasant Baking	94

Total

(I) Laundry.....	Scottish Laundry (Barrhead)	95
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ENGLISH WHOLESALE SOCIETY.

(A) Flannel	Littleborough.....	96
(A) Hosiery.....	Huthwaite	97
(A) Corsets	Desborough.....	98
(A) Shirt Factories	Broughton, Pelaw, and Sheffield	99
(A) Woollens	Batley	100
(A) Weaving Sheds	Bury, Chorley, and Radcliffe	101
(A) Clothing Factories	Broughton, Crewe, Hebden Bridge, Leeds, and Pelaw.....	102
(B) Boot and Shoe Works.....	Grappenhall, Heckmondwike, Leicester, and Rushden	103
(C) Iron Works.....	Keighley	104
(C) Hardware	Dudley	105
(C) Tinplate	Birtley	106
(D) Cabinet Works	Broughton and Pelaw.....	107
(F) Printing Works	Longsight, Leicester, and Pelaw	108
(G) Flour Mills	Avonmouth, Dunston, Halifax, Hull, Oldham, Silvertown, Slaithwaite, Sowerby Bridge, and Trafford Park	109
(J) Biscuits, Sweets, &c.	Crumpsall	110
(J) Preserves, Pickles, &c.	Middleton	111
(J) Soap, &c.	Dunston, Irlam, and Silvertown.....	112
(J) Tobacco	Manchester	113
(J) Lard	Hartlepool	114
(J) Brushes	Leeds	115
(J) Paints	Rochdale	116
(J) Creameries	Tralee and two auxiliaries	117
(J) Farms	Adlingfleet, Coldham, Compton Bassett, Clitheroe, Crewe, Down Ampney, Marden, and Roden....	118
(J) Margarine	Higher Irlam	119
(J) Colliery	Shilbottle	120

Total

SCOTTISH WHOLESALE SOCIETY.

(A) Woollen and Clothing.....	Shieldhall (Glasgow), Ettrick, and Galston Mills..	121
(B) Leather, Boots and Shoes.....	Shieldhall (Glasgow)	122
(D) Cabinet, Brush, Saddlery, & Tinware	"	123
(F) Printing and Bookbinding.....	"	124
(G) Corn Milling, &c.	Chancelot, Junction, and Regent Flour Mills, Edinburgh and Glasgow	125
(J) Various— Preserves, Confections, Chemicals, Pickles, and Coffee	Shieldhall (Glasgow)	126
Tobacco	"	127
Miscellaneous	"	128
Soap	Grangemouth	129

Total.....

	Sales during the Year.	Profits during the Year.	Share Interest.	NET PROFIT (after paying share interest stated): HOW DIVIDED.							
				To Capital.		To Labour.		To Purchaser.		Subscriptions.	
				Amount Paid.	Rate per cent.	Amount Paid.	Rate per £ on Wages.	Amount Paid.	Rate per £.	Educational Purposes.	Charitable Purposes.
93	£ 7346	£ 814	£ 67	£ 63	5	£ ..	s. d. ..	£ 1175	s. d. 2 2	£ ..	£ 4
94	3205	673	88	..	..	..	..	414	4 4	..	..
	1531645	117704	13952	3516	..	8612	..	84112	..	1074	1237
95	24938	1465	253	..	..	..	..	946	1 0	10	16
96	120073	e2209	2707	..	..	..	..	..	0 1	..	..
97	392940	5309	3197	..	..	..	..	..		..	..
98	103808	e2819	2130	..	..	..	..	..		..	..
99	285072	1103	5261	..	..	..	..	..		..	..
100	98266	2827	1140	..	..	..	..	..		..	..
101	440884	4628	6047	..	..	..	..	..		..	..
102	363272	e556	6114	..	..	..	..	..		..	..
103	1104188	20152	15536	..	..	..	..	..		..	..
104	90512	452	382	..	..	..	..	..		..	..
105	35712	1395	584	..	..	..	..	..		..	..
106	5176	e275	231	..	..	..	..	..		..	..
107	143580	87	2589	..	..	..	..	..		..	..
108	418497	e2775	6362	..	..	..	..	..		..	..
109	7529451	118270	79916	..	..	..	..	..	0 5½	..	..
110	332655	e7006	3173	..	..	..	..	..		..	..
111	1290283	8318	15353	..	..	..	..	..		..	..
112	2189814	71270	18696	..	..	..	..	..		..	..
113	1220977	2021	7208	..	..	..	..	..		..	..
114	265266	e8295	956	..	..	..	..	..		..	..
115	49602	121	1010	..	..	..	..	..		..	..
116	33025	e1084	626	..	..	..	..	..		..	..
117	24845	e659	4	..	..	..	..	..		..	..
118	108291	e6920	10381	..	..	..	..	..		..	..
119	1135170	56601	7259	..	..	..	..	..		..	..
120	68109	e975	818	..	..	..	..	..		..	..
	17729568	†253981	197680	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
121	650759	50040	8807	..	..	..	..	..	0 5½	..	..
122	419636	8455	3213	..	..	..	..	..		..	..
123	108650	6821	2222	..	..	..	..	..		..	..
124	142530	9527	2008	..	..	..	..	..		..	..
125	2115010	e2218	10826	..	..	..	..	..		..	..
126	703480	21982	4021	..	..	..	..	..		..	..
127	462027	9286	1441	..	..	..	..	..		..	..
128	1031173	25962	3167	..	..	..	..	..		..	..
129	309263	8794	2597	..	..	..	..	..		..	..

	5942528	†138599	38302	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

e Loss. † After deducting the loss of £33,573. ‡ After deducting the loss of £2,218.

GENERAL SUMMARY OF THE PRODUCTIVE SOCIETIES.

	No. of Societies.	LIABILITIES.				ASSETS.				
		No. of Mem- bers.	Share Capital.	Loans, including Overdraft from Bank.	Reserve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Buildings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to Society for Goods.
								House Property.	All other Invest- ments.	
			£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
England and Wales	81	22399	555578	520714	294140	734004	409490	501711	311345	392518
Scotland	14	15064	626328	271859	152156	140819	267459	36489	630125	68997
English Wholesale Society	1	..	..	6449306	..	3920710	1675121	..	..	..
Scottish Wholesale Society	1	..	..	1231531	..	1077028	274178	..	..	..
Total	97	37393	1181906	8473410	446296	5872561	2020248	86680	941470	460915

NET SURPLUS (after paying share interest stated): HOW DIVIDED.												
No. of Employees on December 31st.	Salaries and Wages.	Trade during the Year.	Amount of Surplus for Year.	Share Interest.	To Capital.		To Labour.		To Purchaser.		Subscriptions.	
					† Amount Paid.	Amount Paid.	Amount Paid.	Amount Paid.	Amount Paid.	Educa- tional Purposes.	Charitable Purposes.	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1	7068	623015	3793954	*258672	26309	13321	84972	64761	2266	3465		
2	1912	184630	1974687	139624	18609	3516	9537	88155	1084	1914		
3	16047	1502619	17728568	*253981	197680	..	..	..	..	..
4	6849	549065	5942528	*138699	88302	..	..	..	..	..
	31876	2858849	29886137	*790876	281199	16837	44509	152916	3350	5979		

* After deducting losses given in detailed tables.

DETAILED SUMMARY OF THE PRODUCTIVE SOCIETIES

(Exclusive of the Productive Departments of the Wholesale Societies).

OBJECT OF MANUFACTURE.	LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.										
	No. of Societies.	No. of Mem- bers.	Share Capital.		Loans, including any Overdraft from Bank.		Reserve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Buildings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.	
			£	£	£	£				House Property.	All other Investments.		
ENGLAND AND WALES:—													
Cotton, Linen, Silk, and Wool	12	6039	173912	126298	96105	316034	81881	535	77247	194831	1		
Boots, Shoes, and Leather	19	5375	109780	115341	113637	239256	42751	275	86512	70033	2		
Metal, Hardware, &c.	4	593	13412	4501	9006	14142	6863	315	14504	13778	3		
Wood Workers	5	422	13426	34861	3285	18315	35072	822	7740	7740	4		
Building and Quarrying	4	686	14481	71055	4168	3024	11610	48896	18419	9583	5		
Printing and Bookbinding	16	2971	78300	41463	46474	76258	71286	..	37380	55357	6		
Corn Milling	3	533	21000	25972	212	20290	13820	150	16788	1766	7		
Baking	6	4091	12887	8792	2802	3974	15643	..	3481	6922	8		
Laundries	7	141	65881	62764	4594	8562	82233	..	42074	6559	9		
Various	5	1478	52799	29677	13757	40149	48301	..	14118	25949	10		
Total	81	22329	555378	520714	294140	731004	409490	50171	811345	392518			
SCOTLAND:—													
Cotton and Wool	1	7743	84809	90484	12344	82690	33880	12920	70501	25296	1		
Printing and Bookbinding	3	375	11392	7066	5552	3282	14659	..	3114	8484	2		
Baking	9	6867	524462	190084	131508	53565	208627	23669	548056	33184	3		
Laundry	1	79	5065	12775	2852	1282	10293	..	8454	1433	4		
Total	14	15064	626328	271859	152156	140319	267459	56489	630125	68397			
Total for United Kingdom	95	37393	1181906	792573	446296	874823	676949	86660	941470	460915			

DETAILED SUMMARY OF THE PRODUCTIVE SOCIETIES—Continued.

(Exclusive of the Productive Departments of the Wholesale Societies.)

No. of Employees on December 31st.	Salaries and Wages.	Sales during the Year.	Amount of Profit for Year.	Share Interest.	NET PROFIT (after paying share interest stated): HOW DIVIDED.			
					To Capital.	To Labour.	To Purchaser.	Subscriptions.
					Amount Paid.	Amount Paid.	Amount Paid.	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1	2746	1269318	97627	8263	4528	3502	21783	£
2	1939	1123351	73344	5928	4675	19138	16341	1377
3	314	87451	7299	888	80	38	190	1137
4	165	51502	1637	257	114	21	11	61
5	12	1486	1351	436	26	..	10	4
6	850	428039	41783	3324	2771	4481	7355	2
7	54	266189	2636	962	..	..	1073	652
8	7172	103144	9221	634	281	..	9019	16
9	6111	105048	7684	3084	..	..	3084	12
10	46437	299591	16386	2833	846	1792	3895	41
	20952							163
7068	623015	3759354	258978	26609	13321	34972	64761	3465
..	..	..	e306	..	..	..	..	..
360	32926	389579	19072	3853	..	925	3097	607
105	9914	28525	1383	550	..	..	..	54
1290	182062	1531645	117704	13953	3516	8612	84112	1297
157	9708	24938	1465	253	..	..	946	16
1912	184630	1974687	139624	18608	3516	9537	88155	1914
8980	807645	5714041	398602	45217	16897	44509	152916	5379

e Loss.

Detailed List of Subscriptions Received from Societies

FROM 1st JANUARY TO 31st DECEMBER, 1918.

IRELAND.

No. of Members.	SOCIETIES.	£	s.	d.
470	Armagh	2	9	0
769	Ballymena and Harryville ..	3	18	5
17400	Belfast	90	12	6
—	Callan Co-op. Agricultural ..	0	12	6
135	Coalisland	0	12	6
393	Cork, City of	2	0	11
118	Drumaness	0	12	3
124	Drumreaney	0	12	11
205	Dungannon	1	1	6
804	Dublin Consumers	4	3	1
1203	„ Industrial	3	4	7
198	„ University	0	10	0
373	Dundalk	1	18	10
667	Enniskillen	3	9	6
1257	Enniscorthy	6	10	11
120	Finesk	0	12	6
127	Foynes	0	13	3
78	Greenore	0	8	2
453	Irish Agricul. C. Wholesale ..	3	0	0
—	„ Organisation	4	0	0
—	„ Co-operative Agency ..	1	1	0
1760	Lisburn	9	3	4
183	Lucan	0	19	1
98	Middletown	0	10	2
276	Newtownards	1	6	0
112	Ochilmore	0	11	8
460	Portadown	2	7	11
379	Queenstown	1	19	6
63	Rosslare Harbour	0	6	2
198	Warrenpoint	1	0	8
460	Waterford	2	7	11
28879		£152	16	9

MIDLAND SECTION.

No. of Members.	SOCIETIES.	£	s.	d.
403	Aberystwyth	2	1	11
4755	Alcester	24	15	4
173	„ Needle Makers	1	10	0
883	Annesley Colliery	4	12	0
584	„ Woodhouse	3	0	10
559	Ashby-de-la-Zouch	3	7	6
787	Atherstone	4	2	0
220	Barrow-on-Soar	1	0	2
2074	Barwell	10	16	0
794	Bidford	3	15	0
42881	Birmingham Industrial	296	7	8
218	„ Printers	2	2	0
120	Blue Lias	0	12	6
1568	Bolsover	8	3	4
2475	Boston	12	13	10
50	Bourton, Much Wenlock	0	5	3

Midland Section—continued.

No. of Members.	SOCIETIES.	£	s.	d.
84	Brassington	0	8	9
320	Bridgnorth	1	13	4
163	Broughton Astley	0	17	0
2472	Bulwell	25	6	8
697	Burbage	3	12	5
1017	Burton Latimer	5	5	11
11216	Burton-on-Trent	58	9	5
4450	Cannock and District	23	3	6
684	Chirk and District	3	11	2
2831	Cinderhill	14	12	0
6202	Coalville	32	5	10
1040	Codnor Park and Ironville ..	5	6	3
—	„ and Selston Baking ..	0	5	0
128	Cogenhoe	0	13	4
—	Co-operative Productive Federation	1	1	0
216	Cosby	1	2	6
144	Coventry Licensed Trade ..	1	10	0
23806	„ Perseverance	120	0	0
51	„ Watch Manufact'g	0	12	0
138	Croft	0	14	6
270	Crompton Boot Manufact'rs ..	2	0	0
1341	Daventry	3	9	10
94	Denton	0	9	10
32192	Derby	166	13	4
72	„ Printers	0	15	0
1900	Desborough	9	17	11
7104	Dudley	15	0	0
977	Earls Barton	5	1	8
210	Ellesmere and District	1	1	0
1176	Enderby	6	2	2
350	Fenny Compton	1	16	6
584	Finedon	4	12	1
30	„ Boot and Shoe	1	0	0
432	Fleckney	2	5	0
5030	Gainsborough	26	4	0
250	Glenfield	1	6	0
257	„ Progress Boot & Shoe ..	2	1	6
8770	Grantham	16	5	0
10350	Great Grimsby	53	18	0
2160	Great Wigston	11	5	0
150	Groby	0	15	8
134	Hackleton	0	19	2
1906	Halesowen and Hasbury	9	8	1
419	Harbury	2	3	8
152	Harlestone	0	15	6
730	Harpole	3	16	0
282	Hathern	1	9	2
505	Higham Ferrers	2	12	6
219	Higham Ferrers Boot & Shoe	1	12	0
229	Higley	1	1	0
3740	Hinckley	19	9	7
102	Hollington	0	10	6
4454	Hucknall Torkard	23	4	0
170	Huncote	0	17	9
691	Huntingdon	3	11	8

Midland Section—continued.

No. of Members.	SOCIETIES.	£	s.	d.
1300	Ideal Clothiers—Wellingboro'	6	15	5
5602	Ilkeston	26	0	0
427	Irchester	2	4	5
1076	Ironbridge & Coalbrookdale..	5	12	1
734	Irthlingborough	3	15	9
8828	Kettering	45	17	3
658	" Boot and Shoe....	6	0	0
1519	" Clothing	8	10	0
409	" Corset Manufac....	3	0	0
307	" Union Boot & Shoe ..	2	11	2
272	Keyworth	1	8	4
3558	Kidderminster	17	6	8
152	Kirby Muxloe	0	16	1
2792	Kirkby-in-Ashfield	14	10	10
301	" Manuftrs.	2	2	0
6558	Langley Mill and Aldercar ..	33	17	2
785	Langwith	4	1	9
479	Lea and Holloway	2	9	9
28591	Leicester	147	4	10
572	" Anchor Boot & Shoe ..	4	10	0
—	" Tenants	0	16	8
998	" Boot and Shoe	8	0	0
96	" Carriage Builders..	0	12	0
—	" Co-op. Sm'll H'lders ..	0	10	0
294	" Morning Star Sun- dries	1	10	10
395	" Printing	2	8	0
224	" Self-Help Bt. & Shoe ..	1	10	0
15127	Lincoln Equitable	9	4	8
620	" Land and Building..	3	4	8
3976	Lockhurst Lane	20	14	2
1210	Long Buckley	6	6	0
11745	Long Eaton	61	3	4
27	" Printing	0	5	0
531	Loughborough	2	12	5
414	Lowdham	2	2	7
13353	Mansfield and Sutton	71	1	10
3292	Market Harborough	22	9	9
189	Markfield	1	0	7
247	Mayfield	1	5	9
2402	Melton Mowbray	12	10	0
384	Midland Boot Manufacturers ..	2	0	0
48	" Wood Workers....	0	5	0
354	Milford	1	16	10
363	Moulton	1	17	10
480	Mount Sorrel	2	10	0
—	National Managers' Assoc..	1	0	0
3003	Netherfield	15	12	6
2525	Newark	11	9	2
1297	Newtown, Mont.	6	9	8
224	Northamptonshire Productive	1	10	0
8948	Northampton	46	12	1
15	" I.L.P. Boot... ..	0	5	0
18730	Nottingham	97	9	0
110	" Printers	0	15	0
8251	Nuneaton	42	13	4
343	Oadby	1	15	5
2782	Oakengates	14	10	0
1279	Oswestry	6	13	0
19413	Peterborough	101	2	2
1057	Pinxton	5	10	1
66	Pioneer Boot Wks., North'nts	0	12	6
71	Pitford	0	7	5
1806	Pleasley and Pleasley Hill ..	9	8	1
380	Prees	1	15	0
315	Radcliffe-on-Trent	1	5	4
258	Ratby	1	6	10
1500	Raunds Distributive	7	16	3
1689	Retford	8	8	0
204	Ringstead Distributive	1	1	3
26	" Unity	0	10	0
13157	Ripley	68	10	6

Midland Section—continued.

No. of Members.	SOCIETIES.	£	s.	d.
1060	Rothwell	5	9	11
222	" "Avalon" Bootand Shoe	2	1	8
681	Ruddington	3	11	0
8129	Rugby	42	6	0
1827	Rugeley	9	10	4
2570	Rushden	18	7	8
63	St. Crispin (Raunds)	2	2	0
789	St. Ives (Hunts.)	4	0	2
190	St. Martin's	0	19	10
100	Saxby	0	10	2
775	Selston	4	0	7
1271	Shepshed	6	6	9
4510	Shrewsbury	23	9	8
110	Sibley Boot and Shoe	0	12	0
269	Skegness	1	7	1
9320	Soho	61	12	11
536	Southwell	2	15	10
1699	Spalding	8	5	4
272	Sperope Boot and Shoe (Barwell)	1	11	6
8420	Stafford	17	16	8
1617	Stanton Hill	8	8	5
2819	Stapleford and Sandiacre ..	14	18	8
362	Stoney Stanton, New.....	1	17	9
5800	Tamworth	30	4	0
11693	Ten Acres and Stirchley ..	60	18	0
34	Tibberton	0	3	6
1475	Tibshelf	7	13	7
1802	Tipton	6	15	7
14741	Walsall	75	2	2
298	Warsop Vale	1	11	0
1545	Wednesbury and Dist. New..	7	16	0
3516	Wellingborough Midland....	18	6	4
321	Welshpool	1	18	9
179	West Haddon	0	17	6
880	Whitchurch (Salop)	3	12	11
445	Wigston Hosiers	1	15	0
642	Wirksworth	3	6	10
550	Wisbech Phoenix	2	17	4
797	Wollaston	3	18	10
6897	Wolverhampton	35	18	5
6818	Worcester New	35	10	0
340	Whetstone	1	15	5
259	Yardley Hastings	1	7	0

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NORTHERN SECTION.

No. of Members.	SOCIETIES.	£	s.	d.
691	Allendale	3	11	11
376	Alston	1	19	2
1970	Amble	10	4	6
9107	Annfield Plain	40	0	0
6149	Ashington Industrial	31	10	1
956	" Equitable	4	17	11
2292	Aspatiria	11	18	5
950	Backworth	4	14	8
1088	Barnard Castle	5	13	3
248	Bearpark Colliery	1	5	9
648	Bebside	3	7	6
2438	Bedlington	13	0	4
5800	Birtley and District	30	4	2
19885	Bishop Auckland	103	11	4
14620	Blaydon-on-Tyne	76	8	0
2457	Blyth Central	12	16	0
4267	Boldon Industrial	22	4	6
1612	Brandon and Byshottles ..	10	1	6
352	Brandsby Dairy	1	16	8

Northern Section—continued.

No. of Members.	SOCIETIES.	£	s.	d.
1300	Broomhill	6	5	0
141	Broughton Moor	0	14	8
622	Cambois	3	4	9
11546	Carlisle	60	2	8
5697	Chester-le-Street	29	13	5
520	Choppington	2	15	5
7364	Cleator Moor	35	14	4
406	Clive Industrial, Blyth	2	2	2
272	Coanwood	1	13	4
8228	Consett	16	16	5
—	Co-op. Bakeries Ltd., West Stanley	1	1	0
58	„ Laundries Associat'n	0	15	0
2380	Cornforth and Coxhoe	12	8	0
720	Coxlodge and Fawdon	3	14	4
634	Craghead and Holmside	3	6	0
5116	Cramlington	26	4	3
6271	Crook	32	11	0
451	Dalston	2	6	10
15086	Darlington	78	11	6
—	Derwent Flour Mill	2	2	0
2209	Durham	11	10	1
810	Easington Lane	4	2	2
4385	East Cleveland	22	16	9
1766	Egremont	9	4	0
770	Esh	4	0	2
1918	Felling Industrial	9	10	0
973	„ Shore	4	19	2
129	Felton	0	13	6
452	Fourstones and Newburgh	2	7	1
235	Framwellgate Moor	1	4	6
16696	Gateshead	86	19	2
—	Gilsland Convalescent Home	0	15	0
857	Greenhead	1	17	2
401	Grosmont	2	1	10
970	Guide Post	4	10	8
1800	Guisborough	9	7	6
1140	Haltwhistle	5	18	9
12143	Hartlepoons	61	14	8
3406	Haswell	17	14	9
388	Haydon Bridge	2	0	5
478	Hebburn Colliery	2	9	10
828	Hedgeley	4	6	3
2440	Hetton Downs	12	14	2
96	Houghton	0	10	0
488	Howick	2	10	10
9000	Jarrow and Hebburn	46	17	6
753	Keswick	3	17	6
469	Kirkby Stephen	2	8	2
528	Lazonby and District	2	15	0
2839	Leadgate	14	5	11
548	Longtown	2	16	2
412	Low Moorsley	2	2	11
935	Malton and Norton	4	17	5
359	Marsden	1	16	10
397	Marske-by-the-Sea	2	1	0
5060	Maryport	26	9	2
25999	Middlesbrough	135	8	3
1341	Middleton-in-Teesdale	6	19	8
2236	Murton Colliery	11	9	9
473	Naworth Collieries	2	9	3
120	Nenthead	0	12	6
2120	Newbiggin-by-the-Sea	11	0	10
2600	Newbottle	13	8	6
1186	New Brancepeth	6	2	11
41418	Newcastle-on-Tyne	215	14	4
121	„ H'sehold Furnish'g	1	0	0
861	„ St. Anthony's	4	9	1
1033	New Delaval	5	8	2
982	Northallerton	5	2	0
—	NorthernSectionEducational Committees' Association	0	10	0

Northern Section—continued.

No. of Members.	SOCIETIES.	£	s.	d.
6060	North Shields	31	11	4
200	Otterburn	1	0	10
784	Pegswood	4	1	8
667	Pelton Fell	3	9	4
1758	Penrith	9	3	2
623	Pickering	3	0	11
1589	Pittington	8	5	6
420	Radcliffe	2	3	8
12204	Ryhope and Silksworth	62	19	1
3841	Seaham Harbour	20	0	1
290	Sea Houses & N. Sunderland	1	10	0
2135	Seaton Delaval	11	2	5
413	Seghill	2	3	1
4474	Sherburn Hill	22	18	4
1120	Shire Moor	5	16	8
332	South Hetton Amicable	1	14	7
5754	South Shields	29	19	4
1837	Stanhope and Weardale	9	11	5
1688	Station Town	8	15	10
20702	Stockton-on-Tees	107	16	6
20714	Sunderland	107	17	0
1166	Swalwell	6	1	6
661	Tantobie	3	8	10
254	Tebay	1	6	5
500	Thirsk	2	12	1
2196	Throckley and District	11	8	5
160	Togston Terrace & Broomhill	0	18	8
1541	Tow Law	8	0	6
2083	Tudhoe Colliery	10	14	6
2844	Tweedside	14	16	3
2124	Tyne Dock	11	1	3
2457	Walker-on-Tyne	12	12	5
7350	Wallsend	38	6	8
2107	West Cornforth	10	19	6
1727	West Pelton	8	15	9
4750	West Stanley	24	14	10
4997	West Wylam and Prudhoe	25	16	9
1307	Whitby	6	15	4
150	Whitfield	0	15	9
437	Wigton	2	4	6
2259	Willington	11	14	10
2187	„ Quay and Howdon	11	7	10
1800	Windy Nook	9	7	6
8435	Workington Beehive	14	13	0
2872	„ Industrial	15	0	0

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NORTH-WESTERN SECTION.

No. of Members.	SOCIETIES.	£	s.	d.
11070	Accrington and Church	57	8	6
841	„ Provident	4	7	7
306	Addingham	1	11	10
885	Adlington	4	12	2
413	Ainsworth Industrial	2	3	0
347	„ New Road	1	16	0
489	Airedale Worsted Manufac.	4	10	0
481	Allerton	2	10	1
350	Altofts	1	16	6
406	Ambleside	2	2	0
5972	Ashton-under-Lyne	30	19	7
3715	Bacup	19	4	8
733	Baglata	3	16	3
351	Bakewell	1	17	6
920	Bamber Bridge	4	15	10
403	Bangor	2	1	8
163	Barkisland	0	17	4
1818	Barnoldswick	9	2	5
50513	Barnsley	263	1	9

North-Western Section—continued.

No. of Members.	SOCIETIES.	£	s.	d.
714	Barrowford Industrial	8	14	6
16128	Barrow-in-Furness	84	0	0
6800	Batley	36	0	0
384	Battleyford Self-Help	2	0	0
300	Beeston	1	11	8
295	Bentham	1	10	9
905	Beverley	4	14	8
768	Billington and Whalley	4	0	0
3624	Bingley	18	17	6
19603	Birkenhead	101	5	4
3724	Birkenshaw	18	4	6
2330	Birstall	12	2	8
4466	Blackburn Industrial	22	17	1
4151	" Daisyfield	21	12	4
5120	" Grimshaw Park	26	13	4
7606	Blackley	39	12	8
13311	Blackpool	69	6	7
140	" Printers	1	6	0
42931	Bolton	223	12	0
52	" Cabinet Makers	0	6	3
66	Bradford	0	10	0
23929	" (City of)	122	9	11
1589	Brierfield	8	6	0
9416	Brighouse	48	16	1
36704	Brightside and Carbrook	189	8	11
430	Brockholes	2	9	9
200	Bromboro' Pool	0	10	6
230	Brooksbottoms	1	4	1
578	Brymbo	3	0	2
785	Bryn Gates	4	2	0
732	Buckley	1	17	8
19730	Burnley	102	15	2
309	" Self-Help	2	10	0
17122	Burslem	89	0	6
14651	Bury	76	6	0
394	Buttershaw	2	0	9
2595	Butt Lane	13	10	4
146	Calderdale Clog Sundries ..	1	0	0
172	Carleton	0	17	11
278	Carnarvon	1	19	0
2110	Carnforth	11	0	0
5673	Castleford Industrial	29	6	8
1002	Cawl Terrace	5	4	4
2070	Cefn and District	10	15	7
500	Central Working Men's (Golcar)	2	12	1
5827	Chester	30	7	0
5272	Chesterfield	27	9	0
8738	Chorley	19	9	5
736	Churwell	8	16	8
820	Clayton	4	5	6
2676	Clayton-le-Moors	13	18	9
5600	Cleckheaton	29	3	4
700	Clifton	3	12	11
1789	Clitheroe	9	2	11
968	Close Hill	4	19	0
1498	Clown	7	16	3
6612	Colne and District	35	9	7
—	" Valley Co-op. Baking ..	0	5	0
1200	Colwyn Bay	6	2	6
3740	Compstall	19	9	7
4200	Congleton	21	16	1
268	Coniston	1	7	0
787	Co-op. Printing Society, Man- chester	12	10	0
—	Co-op. Secretaries' Assoc. ..	1	16	3
520	" Sundries Manufctg ..	5	0	0
280	Cowling	1	8	10
261	Cowms, Lepton	1	2	10
222	Cragg Vale	1	3	2
830	Crawshawbooth	4	6	6
12963	Crewe Friendly	66	0	0

North-Western Section—continued.

No. of Members.	SOCIETIES.	£	s.	d.
510	Crigglestone	2	14	2
3676	Crompton Provident	19	1	8
1199	Crosland Moor	6	4	6
516	Crosshills	2	13	9
3190	Dalton-in-Furness	21	0	8
10600	Darwen Industrial	55	4	2
145	Deinicoln	0	15	0
766	Delph	4	0	0
865	Denaby Main	4	10	0
650	Denholme	3	7	9
1797	Denton and Houghton	9	7	3
15935	Dewsbury Pioneers	82	19	11
10	" Co-op. Laundry Association	0	5	0
326	Diggle	1	13	11
370	Disley	1	18	6
222	Dobcross	1	3	2
220	Dogley Bar	1	2	11
17486	Doncaster	90	4	0
411	Dove Holes	2	2	10
404	Driffield	2	2	4
1250	Drighlington	6	10	0
7626	Droylsden	39	14	4
900	Eagley	4	13	9
1091	Earby	5	12	2
3672	Earlestown	19	2	6
473	Eccles Manufacturing	1	10	0
19661	" Provident	102	8	0
692	Eccleshill	3	12	1
643	Eckington	3	7	0
323	Edenfield	1	12	10
624	Edgworth	3	5	0
925	Egerton	1	12	11
1890	Ellesmere Port	9	16	11
452	Emley	2	7	1
909	Employes' Prov. (Port S'light)	4	14	9
172	Escrick and District	0	18	0
184	Ewloe Place	0	19	2
12225	Failsworth	60	17	2
9246	Farnworth and Kearsley	48	3	1
192	F'ynnon Groyw	0	15	8
197	Firgrove	1	0	0
3381	Fleetwood	17	12	0
974	Flint and Oakenholt	5	2	3
841	Fylde—Kirkham	4	7	6
326	Gargrave	1	14	0
1624	Garston and District	8	6	8
3550	Glossop Dale	17	8	0
1130	Golcar	5	17	8
1130	Gomersal	5	19	10
3500	Goole	18	4	8
170	Grange Moor Friendly	0	17	9
370	Grasscroft	1	18	7
3575	Great Harwood	18	12	5
7462	Great Horton	38	17	4
220	Great Rocks	1	2	11
838	Greenfield	4	7	5
659	Greenates & Apperley Bdg.	3	8	9
124	Gregson's Lane	0	12	10
1349	Guiseley	7	0	6
1704	Hadfield	8	17	6
—	" and Hollingworth Coal	3	8	0
13999	Halifax Industrial	72	18	8
2546	Handsworth Woodhouse	13	5	2
6024	Harrogate	31	5	0
1051	Hasland	5	9	8
3610	Haslingden Industrial	16	13	6
561	Houghton Green	2	18	5
488	Hawarden	2	10	10
339	Hawkshead	2	6	6
1131	Haworth	5	17	10

North-Western Section—continued.

No. of Members.	SOCIETIES.	£	s.	d.
608	Hayfield	3	3	4
1322	Hazel Grove	6	17	8
274	Heapey Busy Bee	1	8	3
508	Healey	2	13	0
502	Heath and Williamthorpe ..	2	18	6
3000	Hebden Bridge Industrial ..	15	12	6
985	" " Fustian Mfg.	10	0	0
10147	Heckmondwike	52	17	0
—	" Co-op. Dyeing & Cleaning ..	0	5	0
433	Helmshore	2	5	1
440	Heptonstall	2	5	10
673	Hepworth	3	10	1
5872	Heywood	30	11	8
163	Higham	0	16	0
1438	Higher Hurst	7	9	9
213	Higher Walton	1	2	1
3227	Hillhouse Perseverance	16	13	9
778	Hill Top (Paddock)	4	0	7
1164	Hinchliffe Mill	6	8	11
3094	Hindley	15	16	0
1181	Hindsford	5	14	7
302	Hoddlesden	1	11	3
—	Holiday Fellowship	0	10	6
825	Hollingworth	4	6	0
335	Holmfild	1	15	1
—	Holmfirth Boot and Shoe ..	0	10	0
1133	Holyhead	5	14	7
1310	Honley	6	16	4
2126	Horbury	11	0	3
3702	Horwich	19	5	5
20200	Huddersfield	105	4	0
28000	Hull	145	16	8
65	" Printers	0	10	6
259	Hulton and Chequerbent ..	1	7	0
983	Hurst Brook	4	1	3
3591	Hyde Equitable	18	0	0
7	" Co-op. Laundries Asso. ..	0	5	0
205	Ilkington	1	2	11
600	Ingletton	3	11	10
265	Junction (Delph)	1	7	7
329	Junction House, Slaithwaite.	1	13	10
11350	Keighley	60	0	0
17	" Laundries	0	7	6
2758	Kendal	14	7	0
896	Killamarsh	4	13	4
1264	Kilnhurst	6	11	8
1284	Kippax	6	13	9
324	Kirkburton	1	13	9
592	Kirkby-in-Furness	2	15	5
350	Kirkheaton	1	16	6
13860	Lancaster and District	72	4	0
83	Lane Bottom	0	8	4
527	Lane Dyehouse	2	14	11
330	Langdale	1	14	4
70936	Leeds Industrial	369	9	2
4594	Leek and Moorlands	23	18	6
119	" Silk Twist	5	0	0
569	Lees and Cross Roads	2	19	3
132	Leeswood	0	13	10
12868	Leigh Friendly	67	0	6
178	Lepton Field	0	18	4
121	Lepton Town Bottom	0	12	7
237	Leven Valley	1	4	8
2058	Leyland and Farington	9	10	0
973	Linthwaite	5	1	4
2731	Littleborough	14	4	6
1160	Little Hulton	6	0	5
740	Little Lever	3	17	1
46191	Liverpool (City of)	240	11	6
1245	Liversedge	6	9	8
495	Livesey	2	9	2

North-Western Section—continued.

No. of Members	SOCIETIES.	£	s.	d.
234	Llanberis	1	4	5
457	Llandudno Junction	2	7	7
240	Llanfairfechan	1	0	0
151	Llanrug	1	0	0
1400	Longridge	7	5	3
838	Longwood	4	7	4
387	Love Clough	2	0	3
280	Lower Darwen—Fore Street ..	1	9	2
290	Lower Holker	1	10	4
310	Low Moor—Nelson Street ..	1	12	3
441	Luddenden and District	2	5	11
744	Luddendenfoot	3	17	6
132	Lumb	0	13	6
7580	Macclesfield	39	10	11
264	" Silk Manufac.	2	0	0
368	Maclor Agricultural (Flint) ..	1	18	4
498	Manchester and District Farmers ..	2	11	10
15	Manchester and District Co-op. Laundries	1	0	0
21498	Manchester and Salford	109	19	6
258	" Tenants	1	10	0
820	Market Weighton	4	5	5
1118	Marsden Equitable	5	16	6
12952	Masbro' Equit. Pioneers	63	8	6
1238	Meltham Industrial	6	9	0
233	" Mills Provident ..	1	4	3
891	Middlestown	4	11	8
4197	Middleton and Tonge	21	17	0
470	Midgley	2	8	11
312	Millgate	1	12	3
2172	Millom	11	6	3
300	Milnrow	1	10	0
908	" Conservative	4	14	7
2083	Milnsbridge Perseverance ..	11	7	0
2066	Mirfield Industrial	10	15	2
990	" Perseverance	5	3	4
240	Mold Junction	1	5	0
8189	Morley	41	4	0
3210	Mossley	16	14	4
771	Mytholmroyd	4	0	4
109	Nantwich Boot and Shoe. f..	1	1	0
—	National Labour Press	1	10	0
10005	Nelson	51	17	9
336	Netherthong	1	15	0
467	New Hey	2	8	8
2921	New Mills	14	5	6
698	New Moston	3	12	8
13	North-East Lancashire Co-op. Laundries	0	5	0
—	North-Western Convalescent Homes	1	10	0
—	North-Western Educational Committees' Association ..	1	1	0
14687	Oldham Equitable	76	9	11
22503	" Industrial	116	19	9
3619	Ossett	18	17	0
1898	Oswaldtwistle	9	17	8
595	Oughtibridge	3	3	0
212	Oxenhope	1	2	0
320	Oxcroft	1	19	2
2950	Padiham	15	7	4
132	Pant-y-fewnog	0	13	9
1080	Parkgate and Berry Brow ..	5	10	9
1610	Park Lane	8	6	8
96	Peak Forest	0	10	0
162	Peckett Well	0	17	5
31563	Pendleton	163	9	7
881	Pilsley	4	7	1
843	Platt Bridge	4	7	9
700	Pocklington	3	13	0
9758	Pontefract	23	3	10

North-Western Section—continued.

No. of Members.	SOCIETIES.	£	s.	d.
578	Poynton and Worth	3	0	2
28523	Preston	148	11	2
5234	Prestwich	27	5	2
2502	Queensbury	13	0	8
2200	Queensferry and District	11	11	4
5360	Radcliffe and Pilkington	27	18	4
3209	Ramsbottom Industrial	16	8	0
560	Ravensthorpe	2	18	4
1597	Rawdon	8	6	3
1235	Rawtenstall Conservative ..	6	7	8
1281	Rhodes	6	0	7
292	Rhyl and District	1	9	2
205	Ribchester	1	1	10
914	Ripon and District	4	15	5
763	Ripponden	4	0	2
1644	Rishton	8	11	4
20	Rochdale Laundries	0	10	0
22257	" Pioneers	115	18	5
15633	" Provident	81	8	4
237	Roe Green, Worsley	1	4	8
2576	Royton	13	8	4
10535	Runcorn and Widnes	54	6	5
17782	St. Helens	92	12	3
340	Sabden	1	15	6
2452	Sandbach	12	15	5
314	Scapegoat Hill	1	11	3
2215	Scarborough	11	10	9
8	Scar Wood Coal	0	5	0
1285	Scissett	6	13	9
5500	Scunthorpe	28	12	10
140	Sedbergh	0	14	7
904	Selby and District	4	12	11
359	Shawforth	1	17	5
491	Sheepridge	2	11	2
25755	Sheffield and Ecclesall	148	16	6
410	Shelley	2	2	8
499	Shepley	2	12	0
384	Siddall	2	0	0
1226	Silsden	6	7	8
6140	Silverdale	31	14	6
—	Skelldale Dairy	0	5	0
583	Skelmanthorpe	3	0	8
1553	Skelmersdale	8	1	7
2373	Skipton	12	6	1
3037	Slaithwaite	15	16	4
325	Smallbridge Conservative ..	1	7	11
269	Smithy Bridge	1	8	0
588	South Crosland & Netherton ..	3	1	3
2138	Southport	11	2	8
4889	Sowerby Bridge Industrial ..	25	9	3
1028	Stacksteads and Tunstead ..	5	7	0
958	Stainland & Holywell Green ..	4	18	9
4957	Stalybridge	23	10	0
100	Stanbury	0	11	7
1549	Staveley Town	8	1	4
501	Steeton	2	12	2
13073	Stockport	68	1	9
476	" Great Moor	2	9	4
3097	Stocksbridge	16	2	7
271	Styal	1	6	3
283	Summerseat & Brooksbottoms ..	1	0	0
570	Sutton Mill	2	19	4
2749	Swarthmoor and Ulverston ..	14	5	0
864	Swinton—Chorley Road	4	10	0
993	" Moorside	4	13	9
127	Sychton	0	12	6
868	Tadcaster	3	6	10
422	Thomson, Wm., and Sons ..	3	5	0
810	Thornton	4	5	0
223	Tideswell	1	3	3
846	Todmorden—Bridge End	4	6	3
4832	" Industrial	25	3	4

North-Western Section—continued.

No. of Members.	SOCIETIES.	£	s.	d.
79	Tong Park, Baildon	0	7	6
1380	Tottingham Industrial	6	13	1
515	" Equitable	2	12	1
386	Trawden	2	0	0
77	Turn	0	7	6
2307	Tyldesley	12	0	4
156	Upper Hopton	0	15	0
1381	Uppermill	7	8	10
480	Uppertown	1	19	9
187	Wainstalls	0	19	6
2639	Wakefield, Borough of	13	14	11
7454	" Industrial	38	13	0
4048	Walkden	21	4	0
466	Walmer Bridge	2	9	0
747	Walsden	3	17	10
213	Wardle	1	4	1
17687	arrington	92	2	5
186	Water	1	1	4
646	Waterfoot	3	7	4
940	Waterloo	4	17	11
1262	Westhoughton Friendly	6	0	0
1694	" United	8	16	6
44	West Yorks. Coal Federation ..	0	5	0
658	Wetherby	3	8	6
2554	Whaley Bridge	13	6	0
161	Wheatley Lane	0	16	8
125	Wheaton	0	13	0
1045	Whiston	4	18	4
1094	Whitefield and Unsworth ..	5	13	6
443	Whitewell Bottom	2	5	10
79	Whitehough	0	7	6
310	Whittle-le-Woods	1	12	3
1022	Whitworth	4	19	0
523	Wibsey Slack Side	2	15	5
8915	Wigan	46	1	6
510	Wilden	2	14	0
9887	Windhill	48	17	10
305	Winewall	1	10	0
4619	Winnington and Northwich ..	24	1	2
3720	Winsford	19	7	6
502	Withnell	2	12	1
753	Woodley	3	18	6
690	Wooddale	3	12	6
794	Woolfold	4	2	5
4690	Workshop	24	3	6
2574	Wrexham	13	8	0
12400	York Equitable	64	11	8
531	Youlgreave	2	15	2

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DONATIONS.

357	Co-op. Newspaper Society ..	15	0	0
1192	" Wholesale ..	600	0	0

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SCOTTISH SECTION.

No. of Members.	SOCIETIES.	£	s.	d.
19775	Aberdeen Northern	103	0	0
201	Abernethy	1	1	0
5653	Alloa	29	8	10
1236	Alva Bazaar	6	9	9
703	Annesland	3	13	3
1972	Arbroath Equitable	10	5	5
2198	Arbroath—High Street	11	17	9
1961	Ardrrossan	10	4	3
1569	Armada	8	8	6

Scottish Section—continued.

No. of Members.	SOCIETIES.	£	s.	d.
652	Auchinheath	3	8	0
1106	Auchinleck	5	12	8
604	Auchtermuchty	3	2	6
3059	Avonbank	15	18	8
—	Bainsford and Grahamston Baking	10	0	0
180	Balfon	0	18	9
1915	Bannockburn	10	0	0
3490	Barrhead	18	2	6
3678	Bathgate	19	6	2
888	Beith	4	12	6
2823	Bellshill and Mossend	14	14	1
2365	Blantyre	12	10	0
1764	Bo'ness	9	0	2
1245	Bonnybridge	6	7	4
3600	Brechin United	18	15	0
341	Bridge of Weir	1	15	6
2440	Broxburn	12	14	2
2500	Buckhaven	13	0	5
2285	Burnbank	11	18	0
758	Burntisland	3	19	0
334	Busby	1	15	0
492	Cadder	2	11	0
420	Calderbank	2	4	2
2333	Camuslang	12	1	11
1756	Camelon	9	2	11
594	Campbeltown	3	1	9
1276	Carlisle	6	12	11
1037	Carrick	5	8	0
779	Carron	4	1	2
419	Carstairs Junction	2	3	0
960	Cathcart	5	0	0
769	Catrine	4	1	11
829	Chapelhall	4	10	0
377	Clackmannan	1	19	3
750	Cleland	3	18	2
9276	Clydebank	43	6	3
297	Condorrat	1	10	5
1264	Coalburn	4	2	10
269	Coalsnaughton	1	7	3
349	Coatdown of Wemyss	1	16	6
10068	Coatbridge	52	8	8
—	Co-op. Convalescent Homes Association	2	0	0
2231	Cowdenbeath	11	12	4
11036	Cowlairs	57	9	7
110	Creetown	0	11	6
208	Crieff	1	1	8
1193	Crofthead	6	4	3
1018	Crosshouse	5	6	0
374	Cumbernauld	1	19	0
500	Cupar	2	12	1
630	Dalmellington	3	5	8
1113	Dalmuir	5	15	11
821	Dalry	4	4	9
10885	Dalziel	56	13	10
124	Darnagail	0	12	9
1170	Darvel	6	4	10
1053	Denny and Dunipace	5	9	11
850	Douglas Provident	1	16	5
358	„ Water	1	17	4
822	Dreghorn	4	5	7
4987	Dunbarton	25	19	6
2852	Dunfries and Maxwelltown	14	14	9
514	Dunblane	2	13	7
2387	Dundee (City of)	10	6	3
2665	„ and District Coal	10	0	0
12448	Dunfermline	64	19	8
604	Duntocher and Hardgate	3	2	11
2051	Dykehead and Shotts	10	11	0
2153	Dysart	11	9	1
294	Earlston	1	7	1

Scottish Section—continued.

No. of Members.	SOCIETIES.	£	s.	d.
194	East Kilbride	0	18	9
1186	East Wemyss	6	3	6
—	Edinburgh—People's Bank	2	0	0
—	„ Darien Press	1	5	0
55580	„ St. Cuthbert's	289	9	7
187	Fergushill	0	18	9
472	Fraserburgh	2	9	2
143	Freuchie Reform	0	18	0
2725	Galashiels	14	1	8
1332	Galston	6	18	9
101	Gavieside	0	10	0
1053	Gilbertfield	5	8	9
4193	Glasgow—Drapery & Furnish	14	0	0
13765	„ Eastern	71	13	8
25393	„ Kinning Park	130	5	11
2681	„ London Road	13	19	3
5487	„ Progress	27	6	0
6122	„ St. Rollox	31	17	8
20948	„ St. George	109	2	1
—	„ United Baking	25	0	0
144	Glenbuck	0	15	0
295	Glengowan	1	10	9
1796	Gorebridge	9	7	1
3550	Grahamston and Bainsford	18	9	9
1659	Grangemouth	8	11	6
156	Greengairs	0	15	10
9255	Greenock—Central	48	7	2
1206	„ East End	6	11	0
680	Guard Bridge	3	10	10
1250	Haddington	6	10	3
—	Hamilton—Baking	2	0	0
3791	„ Central	19	14	10
504	„ Palace Colliery	2	12	6
4491	Hawick	23	5	11
161	Howwood	0	16	9
280	Hurlet and Nitshill	1	9	2
1035	Hurlford	5	7	10
703	Innerleithen	3	12	6
457	Inverness	2	9	9
1580	Irvine and Fullarton	8	4	7
399	Jedburgh Store Co.	1	13	10
2232	Johnstone	11	12	6
427	Kelso	2	4	6
2100	Kelty	12	10	0
410	Kettle	2	4	2
—	„ Baking	5	13	0
596	Kilbarchan	3	2	2
1916	Kilbirnie	9	19	7
12276	Kilmarnock	63	18	9
1950	Kilsyth	9	17	11
1410	Kilwinning	7	6	10
260	Kingseat	1	7	0
328	Kirkcannel	1	14	2
2109	Kirkintilloch	10	17	8
1691	Lanark	8	13	10
640	Langholm	3	6	8
867	Larbert	4	10	6
1992	Larkhall	10	7	2
1963	„ Victualling	12	17	6
224	Lassodie	1	3	1
198	Leadhills	1	0	8
9998	Leith	51	14	0
445	Lennoxtown	2	4	8
300	Leslie	1	11	3
1171	„ and District	6	2	4
2250	Leven Reform	11	11	9
832	Linwood	1	14	2
4087	Lochgelly	21	5	1
820	Lochwinnoch	1	13	4
920	Longroft	4	16	0
2055	Markinch	10	12	6
648	Mauchline	3	7	6

Scottish Section—continued.

No. of Members.	SOCIETIES.	£	s.	d.
233	Menstrie.....	1	4	4
1050	Methil.....	5	9	4
880	Milngavie.....	4	11	8
130	Moffat Mills.....	0	14	0
752	Muirkirk.....	4	14	0
6906	Musselburgh and Fisherrow.	35	19	4
414	Newarthill.....	2	6	4
251	Newburgh.....	1	6	5
775	New Cumnock.....	4	0	9
1709	Newmains & Cambusnethan.	8	17	1
1203	Newmilns.....	6	5	4
368	Newton.....	1	18	3
200	Newton Mearns.....	1	0	10
834	Newtonshaws.....	4	6	11
558	Overtown.....	2	18	2
1916	Paisley.....	9	19	7
	" Manufacturing.....	25	0	0
10115	" Provident.....	52	5	9
709	" Underwood Coal.....	4	8	8
5773	Pathhead and Sinclairtown..	30	1	4
510	Patna.....	2	13	1
1070	Peebles.....	4	10	0
2498	Penicuik.....	12	15	5
7659	Perth—City of.....	39	16	0
2303	" Coal.....	5	0	0
240	Plains.....	1	4	11
1787	Pollokshaws.....	9	6	2
2336	Port Glasgow (Fore Street)..	12	2	9
2126	" Provident.....	10	0	0
1450	Portobello.....	7	11	0
1031	Prestonpans.....	5	0	0
2100	Renfrew.....	10	18	9
417	St. Andrews.....	1	19	10
—	Scottish Co-op. Laundry....	1	0	0
—	" Veterans'.....	0	10	0
—	" "Co-operator".....	1	0	0
1801	Selkirk.....	6	15	0
7263	Shettleston.....	37	16	4
227	Skinflats.....	1	1	0
1196	Slamannan.....	6	7	7
1428	Stenhousemuir.....	7	8	9
1550	Stevenston.....	8	1	6
5090	Stirling.....	25	17	10
330	Stonefield.....	1	14	4
649	Strathaven.....	3	7	2
594	Thornliebank.....	3	1	11
1517	Tillicoultry.....	7	18	0
176	Toll Cross.....	9	3	5
718	Townhill.....	3	14	9
3428	Tranent.....	17	17	1
1308	Troon.....	6	15	5
2374	Uddingston.....	12	8	3
5442	Vale of Leyen—Alexandria..	28	6	8
352	Walkerburn.....	1	16	8
293	Wanlockhead.....	1	11	0
1712	West Benhar.....	8	18	4
8625	West Calder.....	44	18	0
300	West Wemyss.....	1	11	3
222	Wigtown.....	1	3	6
4000	Wishaw.....	20	16	8
—	Scottish Agricul. Organisat'n	2	0	0
309	Auchterarder Feus.....	1	12	8
3507	Redding.....	18	4	8
2114	Lennox.....	12	10	10
600	Old Cumnock.....	3	2	3
511	Laurieston.....	2	2	0
540	Invergordon.....	0	14	1

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DONATIONS.

264	Scottish Co-op. Wholesale..	132	0	0
—	Falkirk District Association.	0	10	0

Scottish Section—continued.

No. of Members.	DONATIONS.	£	s.	d.
—	Central District Association.	0	10	0
—	Renfrew District Association.	0	10	0
522544		£2898	14	7

SOUTHERN SECTION.

No. of Members	SOCIETIES.	£	s.	d.
16	Addington.....	0	2	6
2000	Addlestone.....	10	8	4
3313	Aldershot.....	17	6	1
200	Amesbury.....	1	0	10
1870	Andover.....	9	14	10
627	Arlesey.....	3	5	5
761	Arundel.....	3	19	3
3058	Ashford.....	15	9	2
1370	Aylesbury.....	6	13	1
6021	Banbury.....	31	7	2
1787	Basingstoke.....	9	6	0
2122	Beccles.....	11	1	0
2497	Bedford Progressive.....	13	0	1
1250	Berkhamstead.....	6	10	3
389	Bishop's Stortford.....	1	10	6
1155	Bletchley & Fenny Stratford.	6	0	4
996	Bradford-on-Avon.....	5	4	0
1800	Braintree and West Essex...	9	7	6
350	Brandon.....	1	15	6
1690	Brentwood and District.....	8	16	0
6552	Brighton Equitable.....	34	2	6
9320	Bromley and Crays.....	24	5	5
309	Burwell.....	1	11	3
525	Calne.....	2	14	9
7903	Cambridge.....	41	3	3
831	Canterbury.....	4	6	6
116	Carterton and District and Agricultural.....	0	12	1
4142	Chatham and District.....	21	11	5
546	Chatteris.....	2	14	0
4340	Chelmsford.....	22	6	4
1317	Chesham.....	6	17	2
108	" Boot and Shoe.....	0	11	8
2104	Chippingham.....	10	13	6
2531	Chipping Norton.....	13	0	0
820	Clacton.....	4	5	5
370	Coggesall.....	3	17	0
9792	Colchester and East Essex...	51	0	0
2812	Cowes.....	14	11	8
598	Crawley and Ifield.....	8	2	4
634	Cromer.....	3	6	0
492	Croxley.....	2	11	
3232	Dartford.....	16	13	2
1130	Devizes.....	5	17	8
503	Diss.....	2	11	0
244	Dunmow.....	1	5	5
346	Earls Colne.....	1	16	2
2345	Eastleigh.....	12	4	8
1300	Ely.....	6	15	6
10131	Enfield Highway.....	52	15	4
1485	Epping.....	7	14	8
526	Fakenham.....	2	14	2
1905	Farnham and District.....	9	18	8
1880	Faversham.....	9	16	0
3967	Folkestone.....	20	12	0
910	Garden City Co-operators...	4	14	9
7480	Gillingham.....	38	19	2
1662	Godalming.....	8	13	2
351	Godshall.....	1	16	7
3311	Gravesend, Borough of.....	13	4	8
7645	Grays.....	39	16	4
2474	Great Yarmouth.....	13	10	2

Southern Section—continued.

No. of Members.	SOCIETIES.	£	s.	d.
425	Greenstreet	2	4	8
3936	Guildford	22	12	11
1793	Halstead	9	6	9
1965	Harwich and Dovercourt	10	0	0
1370	Haslemere and District	7	2	8
502	Hastings, St. Leonards, Bexhill, &c.	2	12	5
1886	Haverhill	9	16	6
1328	Haywards Heath	6	18	4
981	Hemel Hempstead	4	17	0
1172	High Wycombe	6	2	0
18598	Ipswich	71	8	0
3126	King's Lynn	16	5	8
—	Kingston and District	1	10	0
934	Leighton Buzzard	4	13	10
1192	Leiston	5	15	0
1950	Lewes	10	5	2
—	London—Agricultural Organisation	2	0	0
2100	„ Anchor	9	13	0
—	„ Sav'gs Bnk.	0	10	0
77	„ Bookbinders	0	8	8
—	„ British Tobacco Growers	0	10	0
—	„ British Flax & H'mp Growers	0	10	0
7559	„ Civil Service Supply	39	7	5
65	„ C. Bass Dressers	0	7	0
122	„ Brotherhood Trust	0	12	9
111	„ Clothiers	0	11	7
—	„ C. Perm't. Buildg.	10	10	0
—	„ Co-partner Ten. Ltd	4	0	0
—	„ Ealing Tenants	1	12	0
32081	„ Edmonton	167	1	8
—	„ Fisheries Organisation	0	10	0
2398	„ Hendon	3	17	9
8	„ King's Cross Publishing Co.	0	5	0
360	„ Perseverance	1	17	6
—	„ Residential	0	5	0
—	„ Tenant Co-operators	1	16	4
13929	„ West London	72	10	11
2449	Lowestoft	12	7	11
6732	Luton	35	1	0
1058	Maidenhead	5	8	0
952	Maidstone	4	10	5
1488	Maldon and Heybridge	7	15	0
500	Melton Constable	2	12	1
682	Mere and District	2	17	6
—	Middleton Stoney	0	10	0
2737	Newhaven	14	5	1
1850	Newmarket	9	12	8
698	Newport Pagnell	3	11	9
5976	New Swindon Industrial	31	2	6
10946	Norwich	57	0	2
950	Olney	1	17	6
12013	Oxford	62	11	4
48	„ Builders	0	5	0
6638	Parkstone and Bournemouth	34	11	6
4200	Penge and Beckenham	10	18	9
16518	Portsea Island	86	0	7
878	Potton	1	18	7
723	Rainham	3	15	4
819	Ramsgate	5	2	4
63	Ravenstone	0	6	6
11819	Reading	61	11	2
1840	Reigate	9	6	2
680	Ringwood	3	10	10
5690	River and District	29	12	8
3812	Rochester	19	5	5
518	Romsey	2	14	0

Southern Section—continued.

No. of Members.	SOCIETIES.	£	s.	d.
2000	St. Albans	10	8	4
467	St. Neots	2	8	8
684	Saffron Walden	3	11	3
2081	Salisbury	10	16	8
1200	Sawston	6	5	0
700	Shanklin Lake & Branstone	4	7	6
4894	Sheerness	22	13	11
3031	„ Economical	14	15	10
622	Sheringham	3	5	5
—	Sherston Co-op. Milling	0	6	0
309	Silsoe	1	12	0
4205	Sittingbourne	17	10	5
2712	Slough and District	13	14	6
7908	Southampton	60	4	0
22805	South Suburban	83	11	4
2897	Staines and District	14	19	8
880	Stony Stratford	4	12	8
1981	Stowmarket	10	6	4
44622	Stratford	228	0	8
—	Sturminster Newton Farmers	1	17	6
380	Sunningdale	1	19	7
590	Swaffham	3	1	6
69	Swanbourne	0	10	0
1449	Thetford	7	10	10
851	Tiptree	4	8	8
755	Tonbridge	3	18	2
1089	Tring	5	8	3
4782	Trowbridge	24	18	0
2614	Tunbridge Wells	16	6	5
800	Walmer and Mongeham	4	3	4
785	Warminster	3	19	6
7041	Watford	36	13	4
4250	Weymouth	22	2	8
564	Wickham Market	2	18	9
5572	Willesden and District	29	0	6
450	„ Junction	2	6	7
290	Wilton, Sidney Herbert	1	10	3
1703	Winchester and District	8	15	9
1380	Windsor	7	3	9
902	Witham	4	14	4
2510	Woking	13	1	5
2450	Wolverton	12	15	3
60741	Woolwich—Royal Arsenal	315	19	8
—	„ Building	0	17	6
1590	Yiewsley and West Drayton	8	1	6
481	The Jersey Agriculture Co-operative Union	2	4	11

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SOUTH-WESTERN SECTION.

No. of Members.	SOCIETIES.	£	s.	d.
111	Axminster	0	11	7
546	Bideford Industrial	2	18	9
618	Bodmin	3	4	0
750	Bovey Tracey	3	18	2
2734	Bridgwater	14	4	9
21818	Bristol	113	12	8
72	„ Printers	0	7	6
1500	Brixham	7	16	3
690	Bruton	3	11	10
1040	Buckfastleigh	5	8	4
271	Budleigh Salterton	1	7	6
1631	Camborne	7	5	10
2509	Chard	12	19	8
845	Coleford	4	8	1
137	Colyton	0	14	3
243	Cornwood	1	5	4
198	Cullompton	1	0	8

South-Western Section—continued.

No. of Members.	SOCIETIES.	£	s.	d.
580	Dartmouth.....	3	0	5
792	Delabole.....	4	2	6
474	Devonport Royal Dockyard..	2	9	4
150	East Harptree.....	0	14	7
5487	Exeter.....	28	11	6
1190	Exmouth.....	5	4	0
425	Falmouth.....	2	4	3
1578	Frome.....	7	16	3
344	Honiton.....	1	10	0
232	Ifracombe.....	1	2	11
217	Kingswear.....	0	16	11
—	Lee Moor.....	0	17	8
343	Lostwithiel.....	1	15	9
255	Menheniot.....	1	6	0
383	Minehead.....	1	19	11
2206	Newton Abbot.....	11	9	3
142	North Tawton.....	0	14	10
620	Okehampton.....	8	4	7
2493	Paignton.....	19	9	6
167	Pensilva.....	0	17	5
1981	Penzance.....	10	1	2
54452	Plymouth.....	301	0	1
216	Printers.....	1	8	3
810	Portishead.....	3	15	6
6864	Radstock.....	35	15	0
183	Roche.....	0	18	9
1460	St. Austell.....	9	14	0
820	St. Mawes.....	1	13	4
432	St. Blazey.....	2	5	0
846	St. Columb Road.....	4	8	0
600	Sidmouth.....	3	2	6
625	South Molton and District..	3	5	1
368	Stoke-under-Ham.....	3	6	10
2718	Taunton.....	13	0	0
762	Tavistock.....	2	15	8
1120	Teignmouth.....	5	16	8
303	Templecombe.....	1	9	4
982	Tiverton.....	5	2	6
4211	Torquay.....	21	10	8
449	Torrington.....	2	6	9
325	Truro and District.....	1	14	11
5186	Twerton-on-Avon.....	27	0	0
469	Wadebridge.....	2	8	10
1580	Wellington (Somerset).....	8	4	7
1060	Weston-super-Mare.....	5	8	6
2925	Yeovil.....	15	4	8
148998		£776	19	4

WESTERN SECTION.

No. of Members.	SOCIETIES.	£	s.	d.
340	Abergavenny.....	1	14	7
570	Abergwnfi.....	2	1	8
3971	Abersychan and Talywain..	20	13	8
560	Afan Valley.....	2	15	0
1978	Alltwn and Pontardawe....	9	9	10
1520	Ammanford.....	7	16	2
1804	Barry and District.....	9	4	10
221	Blaendulais.....	2	3	9
400	Blaengarw.....	2	1	8
9174	Blaina.....	47	15	8
198	Bream.....	1	0	8
428	Brecon and District.....	2	4	7

Western Section—continued.

No. of Members.	SOCIETIES.	£	s.	d.
1375	Briton Ferry.....	7	3	3
180	Bryn Colliery.....	0	10	5
581	Burry Port.....	3	0	6
1206	Caerau and Maesteg.....	5	8	8
5221	Cainscross and Ebley.....	27	2	4
4200	Cardiff.....	15	18	0
692	Carmarthen.....	3	12	0
1240	Chepstow.....	6	7	1
3076	Cinderford.....	16	0	5
151	Craigcennaparc.....	0	15	9
8051	Cwmbach.....	41	19	8
505	Cwmbran and Pontnewydd..	2	12	11
625	Cwmbwrla.....	3	5	4
380	Cwmgorse.....	1	19	7
245	Cwmilynnfell.....	1	5	6
1680	Cwmillery.....	8	15	0
683	Cymmer.....	3	11	1
2920	Dowlais Workmen's.....	13	0	5
—	Duffryn, Mountain Ash.....	5	7	6
4269	Ebbw Vale.....	22	4	8
920	Frampton Cotterell.....	4	15	10
—	Gardiffaith and Varteg.....	3	9	5
15897	Gloucester.....	78	10	6
568	Glyncorwg.....	2	12	1
362	Gorslas.....	2	0	0
2053	Hereford.....	10	14	0
526	Kemble.....	2	14	10
1540	Llanelli.....	8	0	5
105	Llangennech.....	0	10	10
449	Llanidloes.....	1	18	0
175	Lower Cwmtwrch.....	0	18	3
400	Lydney.....	2	1	8
1928	Merthyr and Troedryhiw....	10	0	8
3600	Mid-Rhondda.....	18	15	0
2299	Nantymoel.....	11	17	6
565	Neath Abbey and Skewen.....	2	18	4
5704	Newport (Mon.).....	23	12	11
3434	New Tredegar and District..	17	17	8
296	Pantdu.....	1	10	10
1970	Pembroke Dock.....	10	5	2
1426	Penarth.....	7	7	11
3761	Pen-y-graig.....	19	11	8
462	Pillowell and Yorkley.....	2	5	10
1433	Pontardulais.....	7	6	8
460	Pontyberem.....	2	7	11
1896	Pontycymmer.....	9	18	0
980	Resolven.....	5	2	1
2255	Senghennydd and Aber Valley	11	15	0
141	South Cerney.....	0	14	11
4193	Stroud.....	21	16	8
4722	Swansea.....	22	1	0
—	Printers.....	0	10	6
1940	Taibach and Port Talbot....	10	2	0
4147	Ton Industrial.....	21	8	0
1041	Trecynon and Cwmdare.....	5	6	4
3454	Tredegar Indus. and Prov....	13	17	5
1688	Treharris.....	8	16	0
2066	Treorchy.....	10	15	2
173	Trimaran.....	0	17	6
110	Upper Lydbrook.....	0	11	6
370	W. Brecon Farmers' Assoc....	1	18	6
4705	Ynysybwl.....	23	19	7

142658

£727 10 3

SUMMARY.

		£	s.	d.
28879	Irish Section	152	16	9
509369	Midland Section.....	2667	8	0
433223	Northern Section	2245	17	10
1404567	North-Western Section	7899	14	5
522544	Scottish Section	2898	14	7
546867	Southern Section.....	2802	15	2
148998	South-Western Section	776	19	4
142658	Western Section.....	727	10	3
<hr/>		<hr/>		
3737105		£20171	16	4
<hr/>		<hr/>		



THE CO-OPERATIVE

CASH

FROM 1st JANUARY

UNITED BOARD OR

Receipts.

[Figures in () indicate number of meetings.]

		£	s.	d.
1st January.				
To Cash in hand—Cashier		33	18	5
30th June.				
To Bank Withdrawals		352	33	6 0
„ Receipts on account of		£	s.	d.
International Co-operative Alliance ..		651	4	2
„ „ „ „ Hughes" Scholarship Fund.....		85	12	2
„ „ „ „ Neale" Scholarship Fund.....		36	0	3
„ „ „ „ Blandford Memorial Fund.....		84	3	10
„ „ „ „ Insurance, Mrs. Wilkie.....		50	0	0
„ „ „ „ Minnie Pit Explosion Fund.....		2499	3	0
„ „ „ „ British Red Cross "D. Bayley" Fund		1001	5	0
		4457	8	5

Three Central Board Meetings:] Liverpool (1), Manchester (2).

Eight Meetings, United Board: Manchester.

Five Meetings, Office Committee: Manchester.

Five Meetings, Sub-office Committee: Manchester.

DEPUTATIONS—

United Board: Liverpool, Manchester, Stafford, Stockton, and Stoke.

French Congress: Paris.

Ruskin College Meetings: London and Nottingham.

International Alliance Meetings: London.

War Office Committees: London.

War Emergency Committee: London.

Congress Reception Committee: Carlisle, Liverpool, and Manchester.

Scottish Conference: Glasgow.

C.W.S. Meetings: London, Manchester, and Newcastle.

National Union of Teachers Conference: Cambridge.

Womens' Guild Congress: Bradford.

Industrial Bakers' Council Meetings: London.

Joint Meetings with Womens' Guild: London.

Carried forward £39724 12 10

UNION LIMITED.

ACCOUNT.

TO 31st DECEMBER, 1918.

CENTRAL OFFICE.

Expenditure.

31st December.			£	s.	d.
By Bank Deposits			31483	3	5
„ Cash in hand			19	6	11
		£ s. d.			
„ International Alliance Subscriptions paid over	655	16	8		
„ Belgian Distress Fund paid over.....	94	16	11		
„ Minnie Pit Fund paid over.....	2499	3	0		
„ British Red Cross "D. Bayley" Fund paid over.....	1001	5	0		
„ Insurance Grant, Mrs. Wilkie.....	50	0	0		
„ Blandford Memorial Fund—Liverpool	20	0	0		
			4321	1	7
„ SWANSEA CONGRESS—	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	
Travelling	177	14 10			
Expenses	341	10 0			
General Printing	131	3 10			
Reporting and Travelling	38	16 6			
Grant to Congress Reception Committee.....	615	18 3			
Balance for 1917.....	25	0 0	1330	3 5	
„ UNITED BOARD MEETINGS—					
Travelling	215	0 6			
Expenses	131	10 0	346	10 6	
„ OFFICE COMMITTEE MEETINGS—					
Travelling	72	1 5			
Expenses	46	10 0	118	11 5	
„ SUB-OFFICE COMMITTEE MEETINGS—					
Travelling	23	3 0			
Expenses	15	10 0	38	13 0	
„ CONFERENCES AND OTHER MEETINGS—					
Travelling	131	7 4			
Expenses	128	12 0	259	19 4	
„ CENTRAL BOARD MEETING—					
Travelling	244	3 7			
Expenses	157	7 6	401	11 1	
Carried forward.....	£2495	8 9	35823	11 1	

Brought forward £ s. d.
39724 12 10

GENERAL CO-OPERATIVE SURVEY COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND DELEGATIONS—

Full Committee: Manchester.

Constitution Sub-committee: Manchester.

Trade Sub-committee: Dublin, Glasgow, Leicester, and Manchester.

Educational Sub-committee: Carlisle, Manchester, and Newcastle.

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE—

Manchester (2).

JOINT COMMITTEE, TRADE-UNIONISTS AND CO-OPERATORS—

Leicester and London.

SPECIAL JOINT ADVISORY COUNCIL, TRADE-UNIONISTS AND CO-OPERATORS—

London and Manchester.

Conferences: Birmingham, Bristol, Cardiff, Glasgow, Ipswich, London, Manchester, Newcastle, Nottingham, Sheffield, and Southampton.

CONCILIATION BOARDS—

Bradford, Manchester, and Stockton.

To Trade Dividend and Interest on Shares—

	£	s.	d.
Co-operative Printing Society	195	14	0
Insurance Society	0	18	4
Other Societies	5	19	6

202 11 10

„ Hire of Rooms

70 2 0

„ Advertising—General

37 15 0

Carried forward.....£40035 1 8

777

	Brought forward.....	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
		2495	8	9	35823	11	11
By GENERAL CO-OPERATIVE SURVEY COMMITTEE—							
	Travelling	74	0	1			
	Expenses	56	10	0			
	General Printing	4	10	0			
					135	0	1
,, JOINT COMMITTEE TRADE-UNIONISTS AND CO-OPERATORS—							
	Travelling	15	8	2			
	Expenses	11	15	0			
					27	3	2
,, SPECIAL JOINT ADVISORY COUNCIL, TRADE-UNIONISTS, AND CO-OPERATORS—							
	Travelling	70	8	6			
	Expenses	42	5	8			
	General Printing	14	10	6			
					127	4	8
,, CONCILIATION BOARDS—							
	Travelling	29	2	5			
	Expenses	20	10	0			
	General Printing	7	12	6			
					57	4	11
,, LABOUR ADVISER'S DEPARTMENT—							
	Salary and Bonus	226	0	10			
	Expenses	67	4	9			
	Subscriptions, &c.	13	0	2			
					306	5	9
	Salaries and Wages	1387	3	9			
	Staff on Active Service	254	0	0			
	War Bonus	190	12	10			
	National Health Insurance	2	8	0			
	Auditing and Scrutiny of Voting	22	0	0			
					1856	4	7
	Honorarium (Mrs. J. C. Gray)	104	0	0			
,, GENERAL PRINTING AND PURCHASES—							
	Circulars and Stationery				1605	3	10
	Rates and Taxes	371	0	5			
	Insurance	46	13	5			
					417	13	10
	Cleaning	178	6	2			
	Carriage	21	15	8			
	Postages	416	13	3			
	Coke, Heating, and Lighting	115	1	3			
	Telegrams	13	13	3			
	Sundries	102	13	4			
	Caretakers	28	13	0			
	Co-operative News and Co-operator, &c.	84	12	5			
	Advertising	6	7	10			
	Office Furniture and Repairs	113	13	11			
	Legal Advice	228	16	4			
	Telephone Rents and Charges	35	10	5			
	Conference Teas	8	0	3			
	Registrar's Lists and Reports	10	14	2			
	Railway Contract	64	1	0			
	Reporting and Translating	13	2	6			
	Interest, Women's Guild Loan (2 years)	24	0	0			
	Owen Memorial Expenses	17	0	8			
	Bank Charges	2	4	6			
	Amendment of Rules	1	0	0			
					1485	19	11
,, GRANTS TO—							
	Women's Guild—England	400	0	0			
	International Co-operative Alliance	50	0	0			
	Agricultural Organisation—Scotland	2	2	0			
	" " England	20	0	0			
	Hodgson Pratt Memorial	5	0	0			
					477	2	0
Carried forward		£9094	11	6	35823	11	11

Brought forward £ s. d.
40035 1 8

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION—

Education Committee Meetings: Birmingham, Leeds, London, Manchester, Newcastle, and Scarborough.

Deputations: Cardiff, Dublin, Glasgow, Larne, London, Long Eaton, Manchester, Merthyr, Oldham, and Oxford.

Tutorial Class Committee: Leeds, Liverpool, London, and Oxford.

Ruskin College: London and Oxford.

Summer Schools, &c.: Ayr, Bolton, Bradley Court, Larne, Maidenhead, Plymouth, Scarborough, and Sowerby Bridge.

Week End Schools: Birmingham, Dublin, Newbiggin, and Swansea.

	£	s.	d.	
To Class Fees.....	124	14	2	
„ Entrance Fees, Examinations	5	17	5	
„ Sundries	2	2	8	
„ Educational League Subscriptions	35	13	9	
„ Sale of <i>Educators</i>	124	17	2	
				293 5 2
„ Summer School Receipts				877 2 0
„ Men's Guild Subscriptions				73 12 10
„ Sale of Rules, Badges, &c.				5 19 11

	£	s.	d.	
„ Sale of Pamphlets, Song Books, &c.	1339	13	6	
„ „ Rules	611	5	11	
„ „ Bond Forms and Impressed Stamps.....	11	15	7	
„ „ Co-operative Directories	15	2	2	
„ „ Congress Report	92	18	7	
„ „ "Our Story"	346	7	4	
„ „ "Industrial Co-operation"	41	12	6	
„ „ "Co-operative Book-keeping"	77	7	4	
„ „ Exercise Pads	50	1	7	
„ „ Managers' Text Book	26	3	11	
„ „ "Co-operative Secretary"	32	17	3	
„ „ "Co-operative Auditing"	8	6	2	
„ „ "Co-operation for All"	28	5	11	
„ „ Other Publications	149	19	3	
„ „ <i>Quarterly Reviews</i>	28	16	0	
„ Postages repaid	63	14	9	
				2024 7 9
„ Research Subscriptions				288 0 0

„ MEN'S GUILD—

Four Central Council Meetings: Birkenhead, Birmingham, Coventry, and Stratford.

Deputations: Bradford, Glasgow, and Manchester.

Statistics and Publications Committee Meetings and Delegations: London and Manchester.

Carried forward.....£44497 9 4

	£ s. d.			£ s. d.		
Brought forward	90	94	11	6	35	823 11 11
By EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE—	£ s. d.			£ s. d.		
Travelling	158	7	9			
Expenses	94	12	6			
				253	0	3
„ DEPUTATIONS, &c.—						
Travelling	88	6	4			
Expenses	49	10	0			
				137	16	4
„ SUMMER SCHOOLS—						
Rent and Boarding Accommodation ..	813	16	4			
General Printing and Advertising ..	27	0	6			
Lectures and Travelling	66	5	7			
Returned Fees and Sundries	38	6	6			
				945	8	11
„ Salaries and Wages	998	17	3			
„ War Bonus	131	8	10			
„ National Health Insurance	1	6	0			
				1131	12	1
„ Grants to Classes	19	5	0			
„ „ for Prizes	16	4	0			
„ Prizes for Summer School	22	10	0			
„ „ Junior and Intermediate Exams. ..	49	10	0			
„ „ Essay Competitions	6	0	0			
„ „ Secretaries' Course	0	10	6			
				113	19	6
„ EXAMINATION EXPENSES				12	18	6
„ TEACHERS' FEES AND EXPENSES—						
Correspondence	38	14	8			
Classes	13	16	6			
Women's Classes	327	18	4			
				380	9	6
„ Publications	79	8	10			
„ Advertising	23	4	11			
„ Carriage, &c.	0	4	7			
„ Subscriptions	5	5	0			
„ Slides, &c.	14	7	8			
„ General Printing	735	15	8			
„ Returned Fees	2	7	0			
				860	13	8
„ Grant to Workers' Educational Association	10	0	0			
„ „ Ruskin College	25	0	0			
				35	0	0
						3870 18 9
„ MEN'S GUILD—						
Travelling	76	16	0			
Expenses	27	5	0			
Grant to Districts	1	11	6			
Postage and Carriage	12	7	10			
General Printing	22	19	6			
						140 19 10
„ STATISTICS AND PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE—						
Travelling	133	1	3			
Expenses	72	17	6			
General Printing	56	8	9			
Salaries and Wages	312	18	0			
Bonus	95	0	2			
Insurance	2	9	9			
Publications—Printed	3882	3	11			
„ Purchased	125	2	10			
Carriage and Postage	123	14	9			
Advertising	2	5	0			
Paper and Twine	75	14	2			
Impressed Stamps	2	10	9			
Research Subscriptions	256	6	9			
				5140	13	7
Carried forward	£18247 3 8			35823 11 11		

	£	s. d.
Brought forward.....	444	97 9 4

JOINT PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE MEETINGS—

London and Manchester.

	£	s. d.	
To Expenses repaid by Co-operative Wholesale Society.....	747	3 6	
„ „ „ Scottish Wholesale Society.....	747	3 5	
			1494 6 11

JOINT PROPAGANDA COMMITTEE MEETINGS—

Manchester.

NATIONAL REPRESENTATION COMMITTEE—*Meetings:* London and Manchester.

Deputations, &c.: Aberdare, Birmingham, Bradford, Dunfermline, Glasgow, Hull, Kilmarnock, Langley Mill, Leicester, London, Manchester, Northampton, Nottingham, Paisley, Portsmouth, Sheffield, Springburn, Stenhousemuir Swindon, and Ton.

Joint Meetings, Women and Politics: Manchester and York.

Carried forward.....	£45	991 16 3
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CASH ACCOUNT

781

	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Brought forward.....	18247	3 8	35823	11 11

By JOINT PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE—

	£	s. d.
Travelling	315	11 3
Expenses	252	10 0
Salaries	1197	17 6
Rent, Cleaning, &c.....	398	8 1
Secretary's Expenses—London.....	79	12 6
Provincial Towns	132	8 7
Parliamentary Bills, Papers, &c.....	29	7 3
Postage, Carriage, Telegrams &c.	145	8 9
Sundries	13	4 5
Subscriptions	8	8 0
General Printing	307	17 9
Office Furniture.....	255	13 4
Telephone Rents and Charges	17	12 8
Hire of Rooms	7	10 11
Interviewing Applicants	10	4 8
Regional Advisory Committee's Expenses	68	7 3
C.W.S.—Expenses	209	9 0
Cash on Account of 1917	152	10 8
„ in hand, 31st December, 1918	62	0 5

3661 3 0

„ JOINT PROPAGANDA COMMITTEE—

Travelling	13	7 5
Expenses	8	0 0
Agent's Expenses—Propaganda	4	11 2
Salary.....	109	3 9
London Salary	41	13 4
Special Propaganda—Shropshire and Mid-Wales	41	9 11
South-Western Section ..	100	0 0

318 5 7

„ NATIONAL PARLIAMENTARY REPRESENTATION COMMITTEE—

Travelling	78	19 5
Expenses	50	3 0
Salaries—Secretary, Staff, and Organisers	225	3 0
Rent of Office.....	12	13 0
Secretary's Expenses, Deputations, &c.	47	14 4
Organisers' Expenses, Deputations, &c.	89	3 7
Postage, Telegrams, &c.	8	14 9
Office Furniture, &c.	93	15 9
Advertising	2	19 2
Sundries	5	19 2
General Printing and Stationery.....	121	13 10
Cash in Hand.....	43	19 0

780 18 0

„ JOINT COMMITTEE FOR POLITICAL SCHOOLS—

Travelling	47	10 3
Expenses	24	5 0
Printing	2	10 6

74 5 9

23084 16 0

Carried forward.....	£58908	7 11
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IRISH

	General.		
	£	s.	d.
Brought forward	45	9	16 3
To Subscriptions	152	16	9
„ Audit Fees received	128	12	6
„ Cash in hand, 1st January, 1918	10	0	0
„ Cash due to Treasurer, 31st December, 1918	32	14	4

EXECUTIVE MEETINGS—

Armagh, Belfast (10), Dundalk (4), Larne (2), and Portadown.

CONFERENCES—

Armagh, Dublin, Portadown, Sligo, and Waterford.

Deputations, &c.: Belfast, Coalisland, Dublin, and Dungannon.

Summer Schools and Meetings: Belfast, Dublin, Dundalk, and Larne.

Carried forward £463 15 19 10

EXECUTIVE.

				General.	
				£	s. d.
Broughtforward				58908	7 11
By EXECUTIVE MEETINGS—				£	s. d.
Travelling	52	16	9		
Expenses	26	2	6		
				78	19 3
„ CONFERENCES, &c.—					
Travelling	19	9	3		
Expenses	10	14	5		
				30	3 8
„ SECRETARY AND PROPAGANDIST—					
Propaganda	158	7	2		
Salary	201	0	6		
War Bonus	30	0	0		
				389	7 8
„ General Printing		5	6 3		
„ Grant to Women's Co-operative Guild		50	0 0		
„ Assistance		25	0 0		
„ Rent of Office		10	0 0		
Total Expenditure				588	16 10
Carried forward				£59497	4 9

MIDLANDGeneral.
£ s. d.

Brought forward	46315	19	10
To Subscriptions	2667	8	0
„ Cash in hand, 1st January, 1918	10	6	11
„ Bank Interest	0	0	5

SECTIONAL BOARD MEETINGS—

Birmingham, Coventry, Derby, Desborough, Leicester, Nottingham, Nuneaton
Peterboro', Stratford-on-Avon, Tamworth, and Worcester.

CONFERENCES AND EXECUTIVE MEETINGS—

Alcester, Birmingham, Boston, Burton-on-Trent, Cannock, Codnor Park, Coventry,
Derby, Grantham, Ilkeston, Irchester, Ironbridge, Irthlingboro', Kettering,
Leicester, Lincoln; Long Buckby, Market Harboro', Northampton,
Nottingham, Nuneaton, Oswestry, Peterboro', Ripley, Selly Oak, Stapleford,
Stafford, Stinchley, Tamworth, Underwood, Walsall, Wolverhampton, and
Worcester.

Deputations: Birmingham, Boston, Codnor Park, Coventry, Derby, Dounton
Castle, Earls Barton, Farnsfield, Halesowen, Harborne, Kettering, Leicester,
Lincoln, Long Buckby, Long Eaton, Moulton, Newark, Nottingham, Pinxton,
St. Ives, Spalding, Stafford, Stone, Stratford-on-Avon, West Haddon, and
Worcester.

Public Meetings: Aberystwyth, Alfreton, Annesley Woodhouse, Birmingham,
Bulwell, Castle Donnington, Edwinstowe, Harborne, Ilkeston, Lockhurst
Lane, Long Eaton, Mansfield, Mansfield Woodhouse, Newtown, Normanton-
on-Soar, Oakengates, Raunds, Rugby, Rugeley, Southwell, Stapleford,
Thrapston, Wellingboro', and Wigston.

Propaganda Meetings: Birmingham, Keyworth, Long Eaton, Murcot, Northamp-
ton, Oswestry, Shifnal, and Wirksworth.

Conciliation Board Meetings: Leicester and Rugby.

Hours and Wages Board Meetings: Bulwell, Cinderhill, Derby, Gainsboro',
Ilkeston, Kettering, Kirkby-in-Ashfield, Leicester, Long Eaton, Northampton,
Nottingham, Rugby, and Shrewsbury.

Carried forward £48998 15 2

SECTION.

		General.	
		£	s. d.
Brought forward		59497	4 9
By SECTIONAL BOARD MEETINGS—	£ s. d.	£	s. d.
Travelling	82 12 1		
Expenses	26 12 6		
		109	4 7
„ CONFERENCES, &c.—			
Travelling	121 1 6		
Expenses	68 12 6		
		189	14 0
„ HOURS AND WAGES BOARD—			
Travelling	13 4 3		
Expenses	9 1 0		
Printing, &c.....	7 18 5		
		30	3 8
„ CONCILIATION BOARDS—			
Travelling	6 16 1		
Expenses	5 10 0		
		12	6 1
„ POLITICAL SCHOOLS.....		47	7 8
„ DISTRICT ASSOCIATION EXPENSES—			
Northampton and Earls Barton	6 0 0		
Wellingborough and Kettering	20 3 7		
Leicester	8 19 2		
Coventry	15 2 5		
Birmingham	19 2 11		
Stafford	20 15 2		
Derby	14 5 10		
Nottingham	18 12 7		
Lincoln	28 7 10		
Shropshire and Mid-Wales	43 7 2		
		194	16 8
Salaries—Secretary	149 3 4		
„ Treasurer	6 10 0		
		155	13 4
„ MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES—			
General Printing	26 0 6		
Postages and Telegrams	16 5 11		
Bank Charges	0 12 6		
Hire of Room	1 5 0		
Attache Case	1 16 0		
Special Propaganda	6 5 4		
		52	5 3
Total Expenditure		791	11 3
Cash in hand		45	2 0
Carried forward.....		£60333	18 0

NORTHERN

	General.
	£ s. d.
Brought forward.....	48993 15 2
To Subscriptions	2245 17 10

SECTIONAL BOARD MEETINGS—

Boldon (1), Carlisle (2), Greenhead (1), Newcastle (8)

OFFICE COMMITTEE MEETINGS—

Newcastle (8).

CONFERENCES AND EXECUTIVE MEETINGS—

Annfield Plain, Blaydon, Boldon, Carlisle, Coanwood, Choppington, Durham, Framwellgate Moor, Gateshead, Greenhead, Guisboro', Haltwhistle, Hartle-pools, Haydon Bridge, Keswick, Middlesbro', Morpeth, Newcastle, Stockton, and Workington.

Deputations, &c.: Alnwick, Annfield Plain, Blyth, Carlisle, Darlington, Framwellgate Moor, Horden, Jarrow, Lanchester, Newcastle, Scotswood, South Shields, Stockton, Sunderland, West Stanley, and Willington Quay.

Hours and Wages Board Meetings: Newcastle.

Conciliation Board Meetings: Newcastle and Sunderland.

Congress Reception Committee: Carlisle.

Carried forward £51239 13 0

SECTION.

		General.	
		£	s. d.
Brought forward		60333	18 0
By SECTIONAL BOARD MEETINGS—	£ s. d.	£	s. d.
Travelling	29 11 9		
Expenses	15 12 6	45	4 3
„ OFFICE COMMITTEE—			
Travelling	6 19 10		
Expenses	4 10 0	11	9 10
„ CONFERENCES, &c.—			
Travelling	21 10 4		
Expenses	16 2 6	37	12 10
„ CONGRESS RECEPTION COMMITTEE.....		1	5 0
„ CONCILIATION BOARDS—			
Travelling	7 12 8		
Expenses	10 18 0	18	10 8
„ HOURS AND WAGES BOARD—			
Travelling	15 1 11		
Expenses	8 15 0	23	16 11
„ DISTRICT ASSOCIATION EXPENSES—			
North Northumberland	12 11 8		
South Northumberland	3 17 11		
Cumberland and Westmorland	31 7 2		
West Durham and South Northumberland.....	23 19 10		
East Durham	13 4 0		
South Durham	25 0 0		
South Durham and North Riding of Yorkshire...	27 8 8	137	9 3
„ Salaries and Wages	267 1 0		
„ War Bonus	51 12 11		
„ National Health Insurance	0 13 0	319	6 11
„ MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES—			
General Printing	53 12 1		
Postages	20 10 0		
Cleaning	9 7 6		
Rent.....	18 15 0		
Coal, Gas, &c.....	8 11 7		
Telephone Rent and Charges	12 17 7		
Insurance	0 2 9		
Sundries	0 0 8	123	17 2
„ POLITICAL SCHOOLS		13	1 3
Total Expenditure		731	14 1
Cash due to Secretary, 1st January, 1918.....		2	8 3
Cash in hand, 31st December, 1918.....		16	11 0
Carried forward		£61084	11 4

NORTH-WESTERN

	General.		
	£	s.	d.
Brought forward	51239	13	0
To Subscriptions	7899	14	5
„ Bank Interest and Dividend		1	12 8

SECTIONAL BOARD MEETINGS—

Manchester (12).

CONFERENCES AND EXECUTIVE MEETINGS—

Accrington, Bacup, Batley, Beswick, Bingley, Birkenhead, Blackburn, Blackley, Bradford, Brighouse, Burnley, Burslem, Buxton, Carnforth, Chorley, Congleton, Crewe, Dalton, Dewsbury, Fleetwood, Garston, Great Harwood, Haslingden, Hazel Grove, Hebden Bridge, Higher Walton, Horwich, Huddersfield, Hull, Kirkby, Leeds, Leyland, Linthwaite, Littleboro', Liverpool, Longridge, Macclesfield, Manchester, Masbro', Milnrow, Milnsbridge, Morley, Nelson, Oldham, Park Lane, Pendleton, Preston, Queensferry, Rawtenstall, Rochdale, Sandbach, Sheffield, Skipton, Silverdale, Slaithwaite, Sowerby Bridge, Stockport, Wakefield, Warrington, Westhoughton, Whitworth, Whitefield, Windhill, Woodley, and York.

Deputations, &c.: Bacup, Blackpool, Bolton, Buckley, Burnley, Bury, Butt Lane, Buxton, Cefn, Chester, Darwen, Denton and Haughton, Droylsden, Eccles, Edgworth, Gomersal, Great Rocks, Haughton Green, Langdale, Liverpool, London, Lumb, Mossley, Northwich, Oldham, Portmadoc, Prescot, Preston, Rawtenstall, Stockport, Thornton, Tideswell, Trefnant, and Whitewell Bottom.

Amalgamations and Boundaries: Accrington (*re* Salterforth and Colne), Blackburn, Colne, Hawarden, Manchester, Penyffordd, Queensferry, Salterforth, Slaithwaite, Stacksteads, Siummerseat, Swinton, and Tottington.

Congress Reception Committee: Birkenhead, Liverpool, and Manchester.

Conciliation Boards: Keighley and Manchester.

Hours and Wages Board Meetings: Accrington, Barrow, Birkenhead, Blackburn, Bolton, Bradford, Burslem, Chester, Dalton, Dewsbury, Heywood, Huddersfield, Lane Dyehouse, Leeds, Leek, Liverpool, London, Manchester, Marsden, Masbro', Middleton, Morley, Nelson, Oldham, Preston, Rochdale, Sheffield, Wakefield, Warrington, and Woodley.

Carried forward £59141 0 1

SECTION.

		General.	
		£	s. d.
Brought forward		61084	11 4
By SECTIONAL BOARD MEETINGS--			
Travelling	£ s. d.	102	6 3
Expenses		44	12 6
		146	18 9
„ CONFERENCES, &c.—			
Travelling	£ s. d.	77	10 10
Expenses		72	6 2
		149	17 0
„ HOURS AND WAGES BOARDS—			
Travelling	£ s. d.	32	14 4
Expenses		52	12 6
Printing, &c.....		18	18 1
		104	4 11
„ CONCILIATION BOARDS—			
Travelling	£ s. d.	15	19 10
Expenses		32	15 0
Printing, &c.....		7	15 10
		56	10 8
„ CONGRESS RECEPTION COMMITTEE—			
Travelling	£ s. d.	23	18 11
Expenses		8	11 6
		32	10 5
„ DISTRICT ASSOCIATION EXPENSES—			
Airedale	£ s. d.	16	13 0
Bolton		22	19 2
Calderdale		7	7 8
Cheshire and North Wales		54	15 6
Dewsbury		30	1 11
East Yorkshire		34	13 8
Huddersfield		16	1 3
Macclesfield, Crewe, and District		33	12 3
Manchester		28	5 11
North-East Lancashire		22	8 11
North Lancashire.....		26	1 10
North Lonsdale		31	18 1
Oldham		17	0 9
Rochdale		24	18 6
Rossendale		27	18 3
South Yorkshire.....		38	15 7
		435	12 8
„ Salaries	£ s. d.	315	11 9
„ War Bonus		54	10 4
„ Insurance.....		0	13 0
		370	15 1
„ POLITICAL SCHOOLS		55	19 0
„ MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES—			
General Printing	£ s. d.	67	7 3
Postages and Telegrams		42	2 7
Sundries		7	2 2
Carriage		0	10 4
Bank Charges		1	8 11
		118	11 3
Total Expenditure		1468	19 4
Cash due to Secretary, 1st January, 1918		89	14 10
Cash in hand, 31st December, 1918.....		22	3 11
Carried forward		£62615	9 5

SCOTTISH

		General.		
		£	s.	d.
Brought forward		59141	0	1
To Subscriptions		2898	14	7
„ Cash in hand, 1st January, 1918		16	5	11
„ Rents		21	7	0
„ Interest		0	4	11

SECTIONAL BOARD MEETINGS—

Ayr (1), Glasgow (11).

EXECUTIVE MEETINGS—

Glasgow (27).

EDUCATIONAL MEETINGS—

Ayr, Bridge of Allan, and Glasgow.

CONFERENCES, &c.—

Alexandra, Alloa, Ayr, Cowdenbeath, Edinburgh, Falkirk, Forfar, Galashiels, Glasgow, Hamilton, Kilmarnock, Kirkliston, Kirriemuir, Leith, Longroft, Mauchline, Motherwell, Perth, Pollokshaws, Port Glasgow, Sauchie, West Wemyss, and Wishaw.

Propaganda Meetings: Ayr, Cambuslang, Dysart, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Maybole, Paisley, Perth, and Rothesay.

S.W.C.S. Meetings: Edinburgh and Glasgow.

Arbitration and Advisory Boards: Alloa, Burntisland, Camelon, Cowdenbeath, Edinburgh, Falkirk, Forfar, Galashiels, Glasgow, Grangemouth, Kirkcaldy, Larbert, Lochgelly, Paisley, Stirling, Stenhousmuir, Thornton, and Tillicoultry.

Carried forward £62077 12 6

SECTION.

			General.		
			£	s.	d.
Brought forward			62	15	9 5
By SECTIONAL BOARD MEETINGS—	£	s. d.	£	s.	d.
Travelling	31	11 11			
Expenses	17	7 6	48	19	5
„ EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE—					
Travelling	25	19 6			
Expenses	20	15 0	46	14	6
„ CONFERENCES, &c.—					
Travelling	75	6 9			
Expenses	73	8 3	148	15	0
„ EDUCATION COMMITTEE—					
Travelling	4	18 3			
Expenses	3	15 0	8	13	3
„ Salaries and Wages	446	19 10			
„ War Bonus	94	14 8			
„ National Health Insurance	1	6 0	543	0	6
„ CONCILIATION BOARDS—					
Travelling	2	15 8			
Expenses	9	8 5	12	4	1
„ DISTRICT ASSOCIATION GRANTS—					
Ayrshire	3	0 0			
Border Counties	3	0 0			
Central	3	0 0			
East of Scotland	3	0 0			
Falkirk	3	0 0			
Fife and Kinross	3	0 0			
Glasgow and Suburbs	3	0 0			
Perth, Forfar, and Aberdeen	3	0 0			
Renfrewshire	3	0 0			
Stirling, West of Fife and Clackmannan	3	0 0	30	0	0
MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES—					
General Printing	68	7 7			
Postages	35	13 0			
Carriage	1	0 10			
Sundries	2	7 6			
Telegrams and Address	1	16 6			
Telephone Rent and Charge	10	12 8			
Cleaning and Caretakers	72	5 10			
Gas, Coal, and Electricity	31	0 0			
Rent of Office	49	0 0			
Rates and Taxes	12	12 2			
Advertising	0	15 0			
Railway Contract	12	9 0			
Furniture and Repairs	11	19 10			
Treasurer's Honorarium	5	0 0			
Hire of Halls	1	7 6			
Legal Advice	92	4 0			
Propaganda	200	0 0			
Grant to Women's Guild	175	0 0	783	11	5
Total Expenditure			1621	18	2
„ Cash in hand			51	16	11
Carried forward			£64289	4	6

SOUTHERN

General.

	£	s.	d.
Brought forward	62077	12	6

To Subscriptions	2800	17	8
„ Cash in hand, 1st January, 1918.....	13	9	5
„ Cash due to Secretary, 31st December, 1918.....	12	16	10

SECTIONAL BOARD MEETINGS—

London (13), Maidenhead (1).

EXECUTIVE MEETINGS—

London (14), Maidenhead (1).

EDUCATIONAL MEETINGS—

London.

CONFERENCES AND EXECUTIVE MEETINGS—

Andover, Ashford, Aylesbury, Banbury, Berkhamstead, Bletchley, Braintree, Brighton, Chippenham, Croydon, Farnham, Faversham, Gillingham, Gravesend, Guildford, Halstead, Hitchin, Ipswich, King's Lynn, Letchworth, London, Luton, Maidenhead, Poole, Portsmouth, Ramsgate, Reading, Redhill, Seaford, Southampton, Tring, Trowbridge, Walthamstowe, Watford, Weymouth, Woking, Wolverton, Woolwich, Wymondham, and Yarmouth.

Deputations, &c.: Ashford, Bedford, Bishop's Stortford, Bletchley, Bromley, Croydon, Edmonton, Leicester, Letchworth, London, Maidenhead, Manchester, Reading, Richmond, St. Albans, Staines, Watford, Woking, and Woolwich.

Public Meetings and Festivals: Acton, Addlestone, Alton, Ashford, Bedford, Bletchley, Boxmoor, Brighton, Bromley, Calne, Cambridge, Chatteris, Chesham, Chichester, Chippenham, Chipping Norton, Epping, Farnboro', Faversham, Grays, Guildford, Halstead, Harwich, Haslemere, Haverhill, Hendon, High Wycombe, Maidstone, Maldon, Mere, Newhaven, Penge, Portsmouth, Reigate, Rye, St. Albans, St. Neots, Shanklin, Southampton, Stowmarket, Sutton, Swaffham, Tonbridge, Trowbridge, Tunbridge Wells, Westminster, Wilton, Winchester, Windsor, Witham, and Wymondham.

Conciliation Board: London.

Carried forward	£64904	16	5
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SECTION.

		General.	
		£	s. d.
Brought forward		64289	4 6
By SECTIONAL BOARD MEETINGS—	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Travelling	76 17 6		
Expenses	22 0 0		
		98 17 6	
„ EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE—			
Travelling	36 7 2		
Expenses	10 7 6		
		46 14 8	
„ CONFERENCES, &c.—			
Travelling	206 14 2		
Expenses	98 9 1		
		305 3 3	
„ CONCILIATION BOARDS—			
Travelling	5 0 1		
Expenses	3 10 6		
		8 10 7	
„ DISTRICT ASSOCIATION EXPENSES—			
North and South Metropolitan	44 13 3		
Surrey	12 11 2		
Sussex	17 1 6		
Hants	45 6 3		
Wilts. and Dorset	47 11 4		
Oxford	17 5 9		
Cambridge	22 18 3		
Norfolk	25 8 8		
Essex and Suffolk	21 7 3		
Beds. and Bucks	25 2 1		
		279 5 6	
„ Salaries and Wages	315 19 3		
„ War Bonus	58 0 8		
„ National Health Insurance	0 13 0		
		374 12 11	
„ POLITICAL SCHOOLS		38 3 9	
„ MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES—			
General Printing	150 19 8		
Postages	50 11 7		
Carriage	1 0 8		
Telegrams	2 15 7		
Sundries and Repairs	3 4 6		
Office Rent	40 0 0		
Telephone Rent and Charges	3 8 4		
Publications, &c.	4 0 9		
Assistance	3 16 0		
Conference Delegations and Speakers	4 9 0		
Special Propaganda	12 11 4		
Hire of Halls	12 18 0		
		289 15 5	
Total Expenditure		1441	3 7
Carried forward		£65730	8 1

SOUTH-WESTERN

General.

£ s. d.

Brought forward 64904 16 5

To Subscriptions	778 16 10
„ Cash in hand, 1st January, 1918	23 9 11
„ Bank Interest	0 16 3

SECTIONAL BOARD MEETINGS—

Brixham (1), Bristol (2), Camborne (1), Exeter (4), Newton Abbot (1), Plymouth (1), Taunton (1), Teignmouth (1), Twerton (1).

CONFERENCES AND EXECUTIVE MEETINGS—

Bristol, Exeter, Falmouth, Frome, Liskeard, Minehead, Newton Abbot, Penzance, Plymouth, Roche, St. Austell, Saltash, Taunton, Tavistock, Torquay, Truro, Wadebridge and Weston-super-Mare.

Deputations to Societies, Members' Meetings, &c.: Axminster, Bath, Bodmin, Bristol, Brixham, Buckfastleigh, Camborne, Coleford, Crediton, Delabole, Falmouth, Honiton, Ilfracombe, Launceston, Lostwithiel, Midsomer Norton, Newton Abbot, Paignton, Penzance, Radstock, Roche, St. Austell, St. Blazey, St. Columb Road, St. Dennis, St. Stephens, Sidmouth, Taunton, Templecombe, Torquay, Twerton, Weston-super-Mare, and Yeovil.

Carried forward £65707 19 5

SECTION.

		General.		
		£	s.	d.
Brought forward		657	30	8 1
By SECTIONAL BOARD MEETINGS—	£ s. d.	£	s.	d.
Travelling	91 19 0			
Expenses	26 0 0			
		117	19	0
„ CONFERENCES, &c.—				
Travelling	81 10 2			
Expenses	37 12 6			
		119	2	8
„ POLITICAL SCHOOLS		26	1	2
„ DISTRICT ASSOCIATION EXPENSES—				
Cornwall	43 11 11			
Somerset	44 9 9			
Devon	34 11 0			
		122	12	8
„ MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES—				
General Printing	18 6 5			
Postages	4 19 4			
Honorariums—Secretary	15 15 0			
„ Treasurer	3 3 0			
Special Propaganda—.....	5 6 3			
Hire of Halls, &c.	0 3 0			
Bank Charges	0 16 2			
		48	9	2
Total Expenditure		434	4	8
„ Cash in hand		26	0	9

Carried forward£66190 13 6

WESTERN

General.

£ s. d.

Brought forward 65707 19 5

To Subscriptions 727 10 3

SECTIONAL BOARD MEETINGS—

Cardiff (13), Neath (1).

CONFERENCES AND EXECUTIVE MEETINGS—

Abergavenny, Barry, Blaina, Bristol, Cardiff, Cymner, Down Ampney, Gloucester
Kemble, Newport, Penarth, Pontycymmer, Resolven, and Swansea.*Deputations to Societies and Public Meetings:* Bradley Court, Bridgend, Cefn,
Cribbw and Mumbles.*Hours and Wages Board Meetings:* Cardiff.

SECTION.

					General. £ s. d.
	Brought forward				66190 13 6
By SECTIONAL BOARD MEETINGS—		£	s	d.	£ s. d.
Travelling		44	12	8	
Expenses		18	17	6	
					63 10 2
„ CONFERENCES, &c.—					
Travelling		27	1	2	
Expenses		15	5	3	
					42 6 5
„ HOURS AND WAGES BOARD—					
Travelling		15	18	3	
Expenses		7	5	4	
					23 3 7
„ DISTRICT ASSOCIATION EXPENSES—					
Brecon (Mon.) and East Glamorgan.....		25	3	1	
West Wales.....		9	5	4	
Gloucester and Hereford		20	9	1	
Mid-Glamorgan		20	1	1	
					74 18 7
„ MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES—					
General Printing		13	9	3	
Postage		4	6	8	
Hire of Rooms		2	10	0	
Honorarium—Secretary		15	0	0	
Treasurer		3	3	0	
					38 8 11
Total Expenditure					242 7 8
Cash due to Treasurer, 1st January, 1918					1 4 0
Cash in hand, 31st December, 1918.....					1 4 6

SUMMARY OF RECEIPTS.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To Cash balances in hand—Irish Executive	10	0	0			
" " " Midland Section	10	6	11			
" " " Scottish Section	16	5	11			
" " " Southern Section	13	9	5			
" " " South-Western Section	23	9	11			
" " " Western Section	33	18	5			
				107	10	7
„ Subscriptions—Ireland	Shares.		Subscriptions.			
" " Midland Section	0 5 0	....	152 11 9			
" " Northern Section	0 5 0	....	2667 3 0			
" " North-Western Section ..	1 15 0	....	2245 17 10			
" " Scottish Section	1 10 0	....	7897 19 5			
" " Southern Section	1 10 0	....	2897 4 7			
" " South-Western Section ..	0 10 0	....	2800 7 8			
" " Western Section	0 5 0	....	778 11 10			
	4 10 0	....	727 10 3			
			20167 6 4			
„ Sale of Publications			20171 16 4			
„ Audit Fees—Ireland			2924 7 9			
„ Advertising			128 12 6			
„ Trade Dividends and Interest			37 15 0			
„ Hire of Rooms			202 11 10			
„ Research Subscriptions			70 2 0			
„ Educational Receipts			288 0 0			
„ Summer School Receipts			293 5 2			
„ Men's Guild Receipts			877 2 0			
„ Joint Parliamentary Committee Expenses repaid			79 12 9			
„ Bank Interest and Dividend—Midland Section			1494 6 11			
" " " North-Western			0 0 5			
" " " South-Western			1 12 8			
			0 16 3			
			2 9 4			
„ Scottish Section—Interest			0 4 11			
" " Rents			21 7 0			
„ Cash due—Irish Section			21 11 11			
" " Southern Section			32 14 4			
„ Various Funds, as per Cash Account			12 16 10			
„ Bank Withdrawals			4457 8 5			
			35233 6 0			
			£66435 9 8			

SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURE.

CASH ACCOUNT.

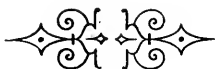
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	Totals	United Board and Central Office.	Educational Committee.	Joint Parliamentary Committee.	Joint Propaganda Committee.	Statistics and Publications Committee.	Labour Adviser's Department.	National Parliamentary Representation Committee.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Meetings—Travelling.....	3051 17 7	1023 7 5	246 14 1	315 11 3	13 7 5	133 1 3	....	78 19 5
Salaries, Wages, Bonus, and National Health Insurance	2115 13 4	950 10 8	144 2 6	252 10 0	8 0 0	72 17 6	....	50 8 0
General Printing	7033 13 8	1960 4 7	1131 12 1	872 17 6	150 17 1	410 7 11	226 0 10	225 3 0
Publications—Printed and purchased	3290 8 10	1605 3 10	735 15 8	307 17 9	....	56 8 9	....	121 13 10
District Association Expenses.....	4086 15 7	....	79 8 10	....	....	4007 6 9	....	....
Conciliation and Hours and Wages Boards	1273 13 11	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Rents, Rates, Taxes, and Insurance	346 16 1	57 4 11	....	398 8 1	....	....	13 0 2	12 13 0
Grants to Other Bodies	959 2 1	417 13 10	35 0 0	....	....	256 6 9	....	....
Summer Schools	1006 8 11	477 2 0	945 8 11	....	....	....	....	....
Political Schools	345 8 11	....	....	....	....	....	....	74 5 9
Men's Guild	254 18 7	....	140 19 10	....	....	....	....	....
Miscellaneous Expenses	140 19 10	1485 19 11	552 16 8	1302 7 4	146 1 1	204 4 8	67 4 9	248 6 9
Congress Expenses.....	4890 1 0	810 18 7	....	....	....	....	....	....
Totals.....	30147 1 6	8788 5 9	4011 18 7	3449 11 11	318 5 7	5140 13 7	306 5 9	811 4 9
Other Funds paid over	4321 1 7	4321 1 7	....	....	....	....	....	....
Cash Balances Due to Sections, 1st January, 1918	195 17 9	....	....	152 10 8	....	....	....	....
Cash Balances in Hand, 31st December, 1918.....	288 5 5	19 6 11	....	62 0 5	....	....	....	48 19 0
Bank Deposits	31483 3 5	31483 3 5	....	....	....	....	....	....
	66435 9 8	44611 17 8	4011 18 7	3664 3 0	318 5 7	5140 13 7	306 5 9	855 3 9

SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURE—Continued.

	Irish Executive.	Midland Section.	Northern Section.	North-Western Section.	Scottish Section.	Southern Section.	South-Western Section.	Western Section.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Meetings—Travelling.....	72 6 0	203 13 7	58 1 11	203 16 0	137 16 5	319 18 10	173 9 2	71 14 10
" Expenses.....	36 16 11	95 5 0	36 5 0	125 10 2	115 5 9	130 16 7	63 12 6	34 2 9
Salaries, Wages, Bonus and National Health Insurance.....	256 0 6	155 13 4	319 6 11	370 15 1	543 0 6	374 12 11	18 18 0	18 9 0
General Printing.....	5 6 3	26 0 6	53 12 1	67 7 3	68 7 7	150 19 8	18 6 5	13 9 3
Publications—Printed and purchased.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
District Association Expenses.....	.....	194 16 8	137 9 3	433 12 3	30 0 0	279 5 6	122 12 8	74 17 7
Conciliation and Hours and Wages Boards.....	.....	42 9 9	42 7 7	160 15 7	12 4 1	8 10 7	.....	23 3 7
Rents, Rates, Taxes, and Insurance.....	10 0 0	.....	18 15 0	.....	61 12 2	40 0 0	.....	.....
Grants to Other Bodies.....	50 0 0	.....	.....	.....	175 0 0	.....	.....	.....
Summer Schools.....	.....	47 7 8	13 1 3	55 19 0	.....	38 3 9	26 1 2	.....
Political Schools.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Men's Guild.....	.....	26 4 9	52 15 1	51 4 0	478 11 8	98 15 9	11 4 9	6 16 8
Miscellaneous Expenses.....	158 7 2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Congress Expenses.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Totals.....	538 16 10	791 11 3	731 14 1	1468 19 4	1621 18 2	1441 3 7	434 4 8	242 7 8
Other Funds paid over.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Cash Balances due to Sections, 1st January, 1918.....	.....	.....	2 8 3	39 14 10	.....	.....	.....	1 4 0
Cash Balances in Hand, 31st December, 1918.....	.....	45 2 0	16 11 0	22 3 11	51 16 11	.....	26 0 9	1 4 6
Bank Deposits.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	538 16 10	836 13 3	750 13 4	1530 18 1	1673 15 1	1441 3 7	430 5 5	244 16 2

DR.	BANKING ACCOUNT.		CR.
1st January, 1918:—	£ s. d.	31st December, 1918:—	£ s. d.
To Balance	4542 1 8	By Withdrawals	35233 6 0
31st December, 1918:—		„ Commission	31 12 11
„ Deposits	3148 3 5	„ Balance	981 4 3
„ Dividend	83 12 6		
„ Interest	137 5 7		
	<u>£36246 3 2</u>		<u>£36246 3 2</u>



BALANCE SHEET: FUNDS AND EFFECTS.

Dr.

Cr.

LIABILITIES.		£	s.	d.	ASSETS.		£	s.	d.
Share Capital, as per last Report	received since	330	10	0	Stock-in-Trade—Estimated	Accounts owing for Pamphlets, Rules, &c.	1000	0	0
" ..	" ..	4	10	0	Propaganda Expenses due by C.W.S.	International Co-operative Alliance	196	3	4
Less amount extinguished		385	0	0	Shares—Co-operative Wholesale Society	Scottish Wholesale Soc., as per last report	150	3	9
Accounts owing—		2	15	0	" ..	Interest and Dividend, 1918	0	10	0
Expenses		324	7	8	" ..	Co-operative Printing Society	1290	0	0
Printing Publications		239	9	3	" ..	Co-operative Newspaper Society	929	0	8
Cash due to Treasurer, Irish Executive		563	16	11	" ..	Manchester and Salford Co-op. Society, as per last report	50	0	0
" .. Secretary, Southern Section		32	14	4	" ..	Interest, 1918	50	0	0
		12	16	10			£5 15	8	
							0	5	2
					Shares and Loans—Kinning Park Co-operative Society, as per last report		6	0	10
					Interest and Dividend, 1918		26	7	8
							0	15	6
					Loans—Co-op. Wholesale Soc., as per last report		3238	5	10
					Share and Loan Interest, and Trade Dividend, 1918		218	16	11
					" ..	Special—Co-operative Wholesale Society	3447	2	9
						Interest, 1918	10793	10	
							542	16	9
							11336	7	7
					Less Funds Account (see below)		8251	2	10
							3085	4	9
					" ..	Co-op. Newspaper Society, as per last report	6	8	9
					" ..	Interest, 1918	2	4	11
					Cash in hand, as per Cash Account				
					hands of District Secretaries—North-Western Section		3	13	8
					Bank Current Account—Balance		288	5	5
					Special Loan Fund Invested		96	0	0
							981	4	3
							8251	2	10
							£19856	15	5

I have carefully examined the books and accounts of the Co-operative Union for the financial year ended 31st December, 1918, and compared all counterfoils of acknowledgments for cash received, and vouchers for all payments made, and hereby certify the above statement of accounts as correct.

Deansgate Arcade, Manchester.

T. WOOD,
PUBLIC AUDITOR.

HOLYOAKE MEMORIAL.

Statement of Accounts of the New Building Fund up to 31st December, 1918.

CASH ACCOUNT.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To Subscriptions	25807	8	6	By Land and Buildings	22362	7	10
„ Transfer (Owen Memorial Fund)	90	13	8	„ Furniture and Fittings	1088	3	5
„ Sewering Expenses repaid	32	0	0	„ Chief Rents	36	14	5
„ Rent	461	3	4	„ Rates, Cleaning, and Insurance	505	10	8
„ Bank Withdrawals	26121	16	7	„ Opening Expenses	204	9	5
				„ Removal Charges	61	15	6
				„ Sewering and other expenses..	71	11	5
				„ Subscriptions refunded	5	12	0
				„ "Holyoake Memorial" Grave ..	237	5	0
				„ Expenses on Property (old)....	871	13	3
				„ Bank Deposits	27567	19	2
	£52513	2	1		£52513	2	1

BANK ACCOUNT.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To Deposits	27567	19	2	By Withdrawals	26121	16	7
„ Bank Dividend	£253	1	10	„ Interest (overdraft)..	£69	7	2
„ Trade Dividend	209	0	0	„ Commission and			
„ Interest	1619	17	0	„ Cheques	13	12	6
	2081	18	10	„ Stamping Agreements	5	0	0
					87	19	8
	£29649	18	0	„ Balance	3440	1	9
					£29649	18	0

PROPERTY REVENUE ACCOUNT.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To Expenses	189	10	3	By Rents	461	3	4
„ Balance (Income and Expenditure Account)	271	13	1				
	£461	3	4		£461	3	4

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To Cost of Holyoake Grave	237	5	0	By Transfer (Owen Memorial Fund)	90	13	8
„ Expenses of Site	182	3	0	„ Property Revenue Account....	271	13	1
„ Opening, Removal, and other expenses	880	1	5	„ Expenses repaid	32	0	0
„ Bank Charges	87	19	8	„ Bank Dividend and Interest ..	2081	18	10
„ Balance	1088	16	6				
	£2476	5	7		£2476	5	7

BALANCE SHEET.

LIABILITIES.	£	s.	d.	ASSETS.	£	s.	d.
To Subscriptions	25801	16	6	By Land and Buildings	22362	7	10
„ Balance Income over Expenditure	1088	16	6	„ Furniture and Fittings	1088	3	5
	£26890	13	0	„ Balance in Bank	3440	1	9
					£26890	13	0

HUGHES SCHOLARSHIP FUND.

FUND ACCOUNT.

Dr.

Cr.

	£	s.	d.
To Scholarship Fund	2000	0	0
	<hr/>		
	£2000	0	0

	£	s.	d.
By Investment in Co-operative Wholesale Society	1350	0	0
" " Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society ...	640	0	0
	<hr/>		
	£2000	0	0

INTEREST ACCOUNT.

	£	s.	d.
To Cash in hands of Co-operative Union, 1st January, 1918 ..	287	14	4
" Interest received during the year :—			
English Wholesale Society	£55	5	10
Scottish Wholesale Society	30	6	4
	<hr/>		
	85	12	2
	<hr/>		
	£373	6	6

	£	s.	d.
1918.			
By Cash in hands Co-operative Union, 31st December, 1918 ..	373	6	6
	<hr/>		
	£373	6	6

NEALE SCHOLARSHIP FUND.

FUND ACCOUNT.		Cr.	
Dr.			
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
To Scholarship Fund	2000 0 0	By Investment in Co-operative Wholesale Society	1300 0 0
		" " Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society	700 0 0
	<u>£2000 0 0</u>		<u>£2000 0 0</u>

INTEREST ACCOUNT.

1918.	£	s.	d.	1918.			
To Cash in hands of Co-operative Union, 1st January, 1918....	180	3	7	By Cash in hands of Co-operative Union, 31st December, 1918..	266	3	10
" Interest received during the year:—							
English Wholesale Society.....	£52	17	1				
Scottish Wholesale Society.....	33	3	2				
	86	0	3				
	£266	3	10		£266	3	10

Statement of Receipts and Expenditure of exclusive of Central Board

RECEIPTS.

To DONATIONS:—	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
English Co-operative Wholesale Society	150	0	0			
Birkenhead Co-operative Society	100	0	0			
Liverpool " "	200	0	0			
	<hr/>			450	0	0
„ Bank Interest	2	1	10			
„ „ Dividend	1	3	7			
	<hr/>				8	5
„ Paid by the Co-operative Union Limited				810	18	7

I have carefully examined the books and accounts of the Liverpool Congress Fund for the year 1918, and compared all counterfoils of acknowledgments for cash received and vouchers for all payments made, and hereby certify the above Statement of Accounts as correct.

T. WOOD,
Public Auditor.

£1264 4 0

the Co-operative Congress, Liverpool, 1918,

Fees and Expenses.

EXPENDITURE.

BY LODGINGS AND LUNCHEONS COMMITTEE:—		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Luncheons · Delegates		502	18	6			
Advertising		5	4	0			
Printing		16	17	1			
Postages		4	12	0			
Hire of Rooms		133	12	4			
Assistance		20	17	7			
					684	1	6
„ PUBLIC MEETINGS AND EXCURSIONS COMMITTEE:—							
Travelling and Expenses		6	4	4			
Advertising, &c.		2	0	0			
Sundries		1	9	11			
Musicians, Artistes, &c.		61	8	6			
Printing—Handbills, Tickets, &c.		49	18	9			
Hire of Halls		14	10	0			
					135	11	6
„ CONGRESS GUIDE AND HANDBOOK COMMITTEE:—							
Guidebook—Printing		51	0	0			
Writing Articles		17	5	0			
Postage		1	0	0			
Travelling, &c.		5	10	3			
					74	15	3
„ FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE:—							
Hire of Congress Hall { Manchester		91	17	6			
{ Liverpool		53	15	0			
Fitting up Inquiry Office		6	3	8			
Advertising, Posters, and Signs		83	11	3			
Doorkeepers and Caretakers		19	16	0			
Printing		1	15	8			
Delegates' Congress Reception Committee Badges		14	0	0			
Postages, Stationery, Typing, &c.		1	11	1			
					222	10	2
„ Sundry Expenses					2	18	9
„ Advertising					0	10	0
„ Binding, &c., Presentation Volumes					3	3	0
„ General Printing					56	0	3
„ Reporting					35	0	0
„ Travelling					7	10	3
„ Bank Charges—Commission		£0	16	0			
Interest		1	6	9			
					2	2	9
„ Foreign Delegates' Expenses					15	0	7
„ Balance due to Fund, 31st December, 1917					25	0	0
					£1264	4	0

NATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE

Political Fund, 1st November,

RECEIPTS.

Sections.	No. of Societies.	£	s.	d.
Ireland .....	—	.....	
Midland	83	884	8	0
Northern	55	429	14	0
North-Western ..	183	3207	12	9
Scottish	82	1237	1	1
Southern	107	1024	7	0
South-Western	36	169	0	0
Western	27	187	14	6
		£7139	17	4
Individuals -				
Per Keyworth C S		0	10	0
R. J. Neale (Wood Green)		10	0	0
J. G. Norris (Ramsgate)		2	0	0
Bank Interest		£154	5	6
Dividend		10	7	1
		164	12	7

I have carefully examined the books and accounts of the Parliamentary Representation Fund for the period ending 31st December, 1918, and compared all counterfoils of acknowledgments for cash received and vouchers for all payments made, and hereby certify the above Statement of Accounts as correct.

T. WOOD,
Public Auditor.

£7316 19 11

REPRESENTATION COMMITTEE.

1917, to December, 1918.

EXPENDITURE.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Full Committee Meetings—						
Fares	145	19	10			
Expenses	80	12	0			
				226	11	10
Executive Meetings—						
Fares	104	2	4			
Expenses	62	5	0			
				166	7	4
Conferences and Delegations—						
Fares	21	10	6			
Expenses ..	23	10	0			
				50	0	6
Interviews with Candidates for—						
Secretaryship				22	4	0
Organisers				60	10	7
Conference with Agents and Workers (Manchester)—						
Fares	£31	5	6			
Expenses	29	6	0			
				60	11	6
General Printing				239	2	8
Hire of Rooms				4	19	0
Carriage, &c.				7	10	0
Cash advanced on account of Elections Contested—						
Clackmannan and East Stirling				700	0	0
Paisley				750	0	0
Mossley				550	0	0
Leeds				350	0	0
Hillsboro'				300	0	0
Kettering				425	0	0
Kilmarnock				700	0	0
Bradford (Yorks)				350	0	0
King's Norton				350	0	0
Sparkbrook ..				350	0	0
Bank Commission ..	£3	10	10			
Cheque Books ..	0	8	4			
				3	19	2
Costs of Prestwich Election				288	7	3
Balance in Bank, 31st December, 1918				1311	16	1

£7316 19 11

NATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE REPRESENTATION FUND.

LIST OF SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED

FROM 1st NOVEMBER, 1917, TO 31st DECEMBER, 1918.

IRELAND

£ s. d.

MIDLAND SECTION.

	£	s.	d.
Annesley Woodhouses	2	0	0
Birmingham Industrial	84	0	0
" Printers	2	2	0
Bolsover	4	0	0
Bulwell	6	0	0
Burbage	2	0	0
Burton Latimer	2	0	0
Burton-on-Trent	22	0	0½
Cinder Hill	6	0	0½
Codnor Park and Ironville	2	0	0½
Coventry	48	0	0
Crompton Boot	2	0	0
Daventry	2	10	0½
Derby	66	0	0
" Printers	2	0	0
Desboro'	4	0	0
Earls Barton	2	0	0
Enderby	4	0	0
Gainsborough	10	0	0
Gt. Grimsby	22	0	0
Gt. Wigston	4	4	0
Harpole	2	0	0
Higham Ferrers	2	2	0½
Highley	2	0	0½
Hucknall Torkard	10	0	0
Huncote	1	0	0
Ilkeston	12	0	0
Ironbridge and Coalbrookdale	2	2	0
Irthlingboro'	2	0	0
Kettering	17	0	0
" Boot	4	0	0
" Union Boot	2	2	0
Kirkby-in-Ashfield	8	2	0
" Manuf.	2	0	0
Langley Mill and Aldercar	14	0	0
Lea and Holloway	2	0	0
Leicester	56	0	0
" Anchor Boot	2	0	0
" Boot and Shoe	5	0	0
" Printing	2	0	0
" Self-Help Boot	2	0	0
Lincoln	38	0	0
Lockhurst Lane	8	0	0
Long Eaton	24	0	0
Lowdham	2	0	0
Mansfield and Sutton	28	0	0
Netherfield	6	0	0
Newark	6	0	0
Newtown	2	0	0
Nottingham	36	0	0
Nunaton	18	0	0
Oswestry	2	2	0
Peterborough	40	0	0
Pioneer Boot Works	2	0	0

MIDLAND SECTION—continued.

	£	s.	d.
Pleasley and Pleasley Hill	3	0	0
Raunds	4	0	0
Ripley	25	0	0
Rothwell	4	0	0
Ruddington	2	0	0
Rugby	16	0	0
Rugeley	4	0	0
Rushden	5	0	0
St. Martins	2	0	0
Shrewsbury	9	0	0
Sibley Boot and Shoe	2	0	0
Soho	18	0	0
Southwell	2	0	0
Stanton Hill	4	0	0
Stapleford and Sandiacre	6	0	0
Stoney Stanton	2	0	0
Tamworth	12	0	0
Ten Acres and Stirchley	24	0	0
Thrapston	2	0	0
Tibshelf	2	0	0
Tipton	2	2	0
Walsall	28	0	0
" Locks and Last Gear	2	0	0
Warsop Vale	2	0	0
Wednesbury (new)	4	0	0
Wellingsboro'	8	0	0
Welshpool	2	0	0
Wolverhampton	14	0	0
Worcester (new)	14	0	0

£884 8 0

NORTHERN SECTION.

	£	s.	d.
Amble	4	0	0
Ashington Industrial	12	0	0
" Equitable	2	0	0
Aspatria	6	0	0
Bedlington	6	0	0
Birtley	12	0	0
Blaydon	30	0	0
Blyth, Central	6	0	0
Boldon Industrial	8	0	0
Cambols	2	0	0
Cleator Moor	16	0	0
Consett	8	0	0
Craghead and Holmside	2	0	0
Cramlington	10	0	0
Egremont	4	0	0
Esh	2	0	0
Greenhead	2	0	0
Guishorough	4	0	0
Haltwhistle	2	0	0
Haydon Bridge	2	0	0
Hetton Downs	6	0	0
Keswick	2	0	0
Malton and Norton	2	0	0

NORTHERN SECTION—*continued.*

	£	s.	d.
Middlesbrough	52	0	0
Middleton-in-Teesdale	2	14	0
Newbiggin	6	0	0
Newbottle	6	0	0
New Brancepeth	2	8	0
Newcastle-on-Tyne	80	0	0
New Delaval	2	2	0
Northallerton	2	2	0
North Shields	10	0	0
Pegswood	2	0	0
Penrith	4	0	0
Radcliffe	1	0	0
Seaham Harbour	8	0	0
Seaton Delaval	4	0	0
Seghill	2	0	0
South Shields	12	0	0
Stanhope and Weardale	4	0	0
Tantobie	2	0	0
Thirsk	2	0	0
Throckley	4	0	0
Tow Law	4	0	0
Tyne Dock	4	8	0
Wallsend	15	0	0
Warwick Bridge	2	0	0
West Wylam and Prudhoe	10	0	0
Whitby	4	0	0
Wigton	2	0	0
Willington	6	0	0
Willington Quay and Howden	6	0	0
Windy Nook	4	0	0
Workington Beehive	8	0	0
„ Industrial	6	0	0

£429 14 0

NORTH-WESTERN SECTION—*continued.*

	£	s.	d.
Chorley	8	0	0
Churwell	2	0	0
Clayton	2	0	0
Clown	4	0	0
Colne	12	0	0
Compstall	8	0	0
Coniston	0	10	6
Co-operative Sundries Manuf.	3	0	0
Cowling	0	11	8
Crewe	26	0	0
Crigglestone	2	2	0
Crosland Moor	2	0	0
Crosshills	2	0	0
Delph	2	0	0
Denholme	2	0	0
Denton and Haughton	4	0	0
Dewsbury	32	0	0
Disley	2	0	0
Doncaster	34	0	0
Earlestown	5	0	0
Eccles	40	19	2
Emley	2	0	0
Failsworth	24	0	0
Ffynnon Groyw	2	0	0
Fleetwood	6	6	8
Flint and Oakenholt	2	0	0
Gargrave	1	10	0
Garston	4	0	0
Glossop Dale	8	0	0
Gomersal	4	0	0
Goole	7	0	0
Grange Moor Friendly	1	8	4
Great Harwood	8	0	0
Great Horton	16	0	0
Great Rocks	2	0	0
Greenfield	2	0	0
Greengates and Apperley Bridge ..	2	0	0
Guiseley	4	0	0
Handsworth Woodhouse	6	0	0
Harrogate	12	0	0
Hasland	2	0	0
Haslingden	8	0	0
Haworth	4	0	0
Heath and Williamthorpe	2	0	0
Hebden Bridge	6	6	8
Heckmondwike	22	0	0
Higher Hurst	4	0	0
Hill Top Paddock	2	0	0
Hinchliffe Mill	4	0	0
Holmfild	0	13	6
Horwich	8	0	0
Huddersfield	42	0	0
Hull	52	10	0
„ Printers	2	0	0
Hyde	8	0	0
Keighley	26	0	0
Kendal	6	0	0
Killamarsh	2	0	0
Kilnhurst	4	0	0
Kippax	3	0	0
Lancaster	28	0	0
Lane Dyehouse	2	0	0
Leeds	142	0	0
Leek and Moorlands	10	0	0
Lees and Cross Roads	2	0	0
Leigh	26	0	0
Leven Valley	0	10	0
Littleboro'	5	0	0
Little Lever	2	0	0
Liverpool	94	0	0
Longridge	3	0	0

NORTH-WESTERN SECTION.

	£	s.	d.
Accrington and Church	22	0	0
Adlington	2	0	0
Allerton	1	5	0
Barkisland	0	8	0
Barnsley	102	0	0
Barrowford	2	0	0
Barrow	32	0	0
Batley	13	12	0
Bentham	2	0	0
Beverley	2	0	0
Bingley	8	0	0
Birkenhead	40	0	0
Birstall	6	0	0
Blackburn Daisfield	8	9	9
Blackley	16	0	0
Bolton	86	0	0
Bradford, City of	48	0	0
Brierfield	3	5	0
Brighouse	20	0	0
Brightside and Carbrook	65	0	0
Brockholes	2	0	0
Brymbo	2	0	0
Bryn Gates	2	0	0
Buckley	2	0	0
Burnley	36	17	4
Burslem	32	0	0
Buttershaw	2	0	0
Butt Lane	6	0	0
Carnarvon	5	5	0
Carnforth	3	0	0
Castleford Industrial	12	0	0
Cefn	4	0	0
Chesterfield	12	0	0

NORTH-WESTERN SECTION—continued.

	£	s.	d.
Longwood	2	0	0
Love Clough	2	0	0
Luddendenfoot	1	10	0
Macclesfield	16	0	0
Manchester Laundries	2	0	0
" and Salford (1918-9)	87	11	9
" Tenants	2	0	0
Market Weighton	2	0	0
Marsden Equitable	4	0	0
Masor's Pioneers	25	0	0
Meltham Industrial	4	0	0
Middlestown	2	0	0
Middleton and Tonge	8	0	0
Milom	6	0	0
Mirfield Perseverance	2	0	0
Mold Junction	1	0	0
Morley	18	0	0
Mossley	6	0	0
National Labour Press	2	0	0
Netterthong	0	12	0
New Moston	2	0	0
Oldham Equitable	30	0	0
" Industrial	46	0	0
Ossett	8	0	0
Oxroft	2	0	0
Park Lane	3	6	8
Pendleton	64	0	0
Pilsley	2	0	0
Poynton and Worth	2	0	0
Preston	59	8	5
Prestwich	12	0	0
Queensbury	6	0	0
Queensferry	6	0	0
Radcliffe and Pilkington	12	0	0
Ramsbottom	6	0	0
Ravensthorpe	2	0	0
Rawdon	4	0	0
Ripponden	2	0	0
Rishton	4	0	0
Rocdale Pioneers	46	0	0
Roe Green	2	0	0
Scarborough	6	6	0
Scunthorpe	10	0	0
Selby	2	0	0
Shepley	2	0	0
Skipton	5	0	0
Skintawite	6	0	0
Southport	4	0	0
Sowerby Bridge Industrial	10	0	0
Stainland and Holywell Green	2	0	0
Stanbury	0	4	8
Steeton	2	0	0
Stockport	26	0	0
Stocksbridge	6	0	0
Swartmoor and Ulverston	6	0	0
Swinton, Chorley Road	1	16	6
" Moorside	2	0	0
Tadcaster	2	0	0
Thornton	2	0	0
Todmorden, Bridge End	2	0	0
Tyldesley	4	0	0
Uppermill	2	0	0
Walsden	8	0	0
Walsden	2	0	0
Warrington	34	0	0
Westonaghton Friendly	2	0	0
" United	4	0	0
Whaley ridge	11	4	2
Whitworth	2	0	0
Wilsden	2	0	0
Windhill	20	0	0
Winnington and Northwich	10	0	0

NORTH-WESTERN SECTION—continued.

	£	s.	d.
Winsford	8	0	0
Wooddale	2	2	0
Workshop	10	0	0
Wrexham	6	0	0
York	26	0	0
Hebden Bridge Fustian	10	0	0
Co-operative Wholesale Society	1000	0	0

£3:07 2 9

SCOTTISH SECTION.

	£	s.	d.
Alloa	11	0	0
Alva Bazaar	2	10	0
Arroath Equitable	4	0	0
Armada	3	0	0
Auchinleck	2	0	0
Avonbank	6	0	0
Bainsford and Grahamston Bkg.	10	0	0
Bannockburn	4	0	0
Barnhead	8	0	0
Beith	2	0	0
Benshill and Mossend	6	0	0
Blantyre	6	0	0
Bonnybridge	4	0	0
Brechin United	8	0	0
Bridge of Weir	2	0	0
Broxburn	5	0	0
Burntisland	2	0	0
Busby	2	0	0
Canelon	4	0	0
Carstairs Junction	2	2	0
Clackmannan	2	0	0
Coalsnaughton	2	0	0
Coatbridge	20	0	0
Cowdenleath	6	0	0
Cowlairs	22	0	0
Dalry	2	0	0
Dumbarton	0	0	0
Dumfries and Maxwelltown	5	0	0
Dunblane	2	0	0
Edinburgh St. Cuthberts	110	0	0
Galston	4	0	0
Glasgow, Eastern	27	0	0
" Kinning Park	50	0	0
" London Road	5	0	0
" Progress	12	0	0
" St. Rollox	12	0	0
" United Baking	100	0	0
Glenbuck	2	0	0
Gorebridge	4	0	0
Grahamston and Bainsford	7	0	0
Grangemouth	3	6	5
Greenock, Central	18	0	0
Hamilton Baking	5	0	0
" Central	23	16	8
Hawick	9	0	0
Jedburgh Store Co.	2	2	0
Kilbarchan	2	0	0
Kilmarnock	25	0	0
Kilsyth	4	0	0
Kilwinning	2	16	0
Lochelly	8	0	0
Markinch	4	0	0
Methil	2	0	0
Muirkirk	2	0	0
Musselburgh and Fishierrow	12	0	6
Newton	2	0	0
Newton Mearns	0	8	0
Newtonshaw	2	0	0

SCOTTISH SECTION—continued.

	£	s.	d.
Paisley Equitable	4	0	0
„ Manufacturing	14	0	0
„ Provident	20	0	0
Peebles	2	0	0
Perth, City of	15	0	0
Pollokshaws	5	0	0
Renfrew Equitable	6	0	0
Shettleston	14	0	0
Stonelfield	1	0	0
Tillicooultry	3	0	0
Tranent	8	0	0
Vale of Leven	12	0	0
Wishaw	8	0	0
Scottish Co-operative Wholesale ..	500	0	0

£1237 1 1

SOUTHERN SECTION.

	£	s.	d.
Addlestone	4	0	0
Aldershot	8	0	0
Andover	4	0	0
Ashford	6	0	0
Aylesbury	2	12	0
Banbury	14	0	0
Beebles	4	0	0
Bedford	4	0	0
Berkhamsted	4	0	0
Bishop's Stortford	2	0	0
Bradford-on-Avon	2	0	0
Braintree and West Essex	4	0	0
Brentwood	4	0	0
Brighton	14	0	0
Cambridge	16	0	0
Chatham	10	0	0
Chatteris	2	0	0
Chelmsford	10	0	0
Chesham	4	0	0
Chippenham	4	0	0
Chipping Norton	6	0	0
Clacton	2	0	0
Colchester	20	0	0
Cowes	6	0	0
Crawley and Ifeld	2	0	0
Dartford	6	8	0
Devizes	2	2	0
Diss	1	0	0
Eastleigh	6	0	0
Ely	4	0	0
Enfield Highway	25	0	0
Epping	4	0	0
Farnham	4	0	0
Faversham	4	0	0
Folkestone	8	0	0
Garden City Co-operators	2	0	0
Gillingham	15	0	0
Godalming	4	0	0
Gomshall	1	1	0
Gravesend, Boro' of	5	0	0
Grays	15	0	0
Gt. Yarmouth	5	0	0
Guildford	8	0	0
Halstead	4	0	0
Harwich, Dovercourt	4	0	0
Haslemere	4	0	0
Haverhill	4	0	0
Hemel Hempstead	2	0	0
High Wycombe	4	0	0
Hitchin	2	0	0
Ipswich	28	0	0

SOUTHERN SECTION—continued.

	£	s.	d.
King's Lynn	6	0	0
Leighton Buzzard	2	0	0
London—			
Civil Service Supply	16	0	0
Edmonton	64	0	0
Hendon	6	0	0
Perseverance	2	0	0
West London	28	0	0
Lowestoft	5	0	0
Luton	14	0	0
Maidenhead	2	0	0
Maidstone	2	0	0
Maldon and Heybridge	4	0	0
Melton Constable	2	0	0
Newhaven	6	0	0
Newmarket	4	0	0
Newport Pagnell	2	0	0
New Swindon Industrial	12	0	0
Oxford	22	0	0
Parkstone and Bournemouth	14	0	0
Portsea Island	34	0	0
Potton	2	0	0
Rainham	2	0	0
Reading	24	0	0
River and District	12	0	0
Rochester	6	0	0
Romsey	1	0	0
St. Albans	2	2	0
St. Neots	1	0	0
Saffron Walden	2	0	0
Salisbury	5	0	0
Sawston	4	0	0
Shanklin Lake and Branstion	2	0	0
Sheerness	6	0	0
Silsoe	1	0	0
Sittingbourne	20	0	0
Slough	5	0	0
Southampton	16	0	0
South Suburban	48	0	0
Staines	6	0	0
Stony Stratford	2	0	0
Stowmarket	4	0	0
Stratford	86	0	0
Swaffham	2	2	0
Tring	2	0	0
Trowbridge	10	0	0
Tunbridge Wells	6	0	0
Walmer and Mongeham	2	0	0
Warminster	2	2	0
Watford	14	0	0
Willesden and District	12	0	0
Winchester	4	0	0
Windsor	2	18	0
Witham	2	0	0
Woking	6	0	0
Wolverton	5	0	0
Woolwich Royal Arsenal	120	0	0

£106 - 0

SOUTH-WESTERN SECTION.

	£	s.	d.
Bideford	2	0	0
Bovey Tracey	2	0	0
Bridgwater	6	0	0
Bristol	50	0	0
Brixham	4	0	0
Bruton	1	1	0
Buckfastleigh	2	0	0
Camborne	4	0	0

SOUTH-WESTERN SECTION—*continued.*

	£	s.	d.
Coleford	2	0	0
Delabole	2	0	0
Exeter	12	0	0
Exmouth	2	0	0
Frome	4	0	0
Honiton	1	0	0
Ilfracombe	2	0	0
Kingswear	0	5	0
Minehead	2	2	0
Newton Abbot	3	0	0
Paignton	5	0	0
Penzance	4	0	0
Plympton	2	0	0
Radstock	14	0	0
St. Austell	2	0	0
St. Blazey	5	0	0
South Moulton	2	0	0
Stoke-on-Ham	2	2	0
Street	2	0	0
Taunton	6	0	0
Telgnmouth	4	0	0
Templecombe	2	0	0
Torquay	8	0	0
Torrington	2	0	0
Truro	1	0	0
Twerton-on-Avon	10	10	0
Wadebridge	1	0	0
Weston-super-Mare	2	0	0

£169 0 0

WESTERN SECTION.

	£	s.	d.
Afan Valley	2	0	0
Alltwen and Pontardawe	4	0	0
Ammanford	3	4	0
Barry	4	0	0
Blaena	20	0	0
Burry Port	2	0	0
Cainscross and Ebley	10	0	0
Cardiff	6	0	0
Cardmarthen	2	0	0
Dowlais	5	10	0
Ebbw Vale	10	0	0
Gloucester	31	16	0

WESTERN SECTION—*continued.*

	£	s.	d.
Hereford	4	0	0
Kemble	2	0	0
Llanelly	4	0	0
Mid-Rhondda	8	0	0
Nantymoel	5	0	0
Newport	11	17	6
Penarth	2	0	0
Pontyrymmer	4	0	0
Resolven	2	0	0
Senghenydd and Aber Valley	5	0	0
Stroud	8	0	0
Swansea	8	0	0
Ton Industrial	8	0	0
Tredegar	7	7	0
Ynysybwl	8	0	0

£187 14 6

INDIVIDUALS.

	£	s.	d.
Per Keyworth Society	0	10	0
R. J. Neale (Wood Green)	10	0	0
J. G. Norrils (Ramsgate)	2	0	0

£12 10 0

SUMMARY.

	£	s.	d.
Ireland	884	8	0
Midland	429	14	0
Northern	3207	12	9
North-Western	1237	1	1
Scottish	1024	7	0
Southern	169	0	0
South-Western	187	14	6
Western	7139	17	4
Individuals	12	10	0

£7152 7 4



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66 GREAT PRESCOTT STREET, LONDON, E.

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<i>Annual Sales ..</i>	<i>over £80,000,000</i>
<i>Annual value of productions from C.W.S.</i>	
<i>Factories, &c. ..</i>	<i>£21,371,000</i>
<i>Annual movement of funds of the C.W.S. Bank</i>	<i>£488,000,000</i>
<i>No. of shareholding societies ..</i>	<i>1,206</i>

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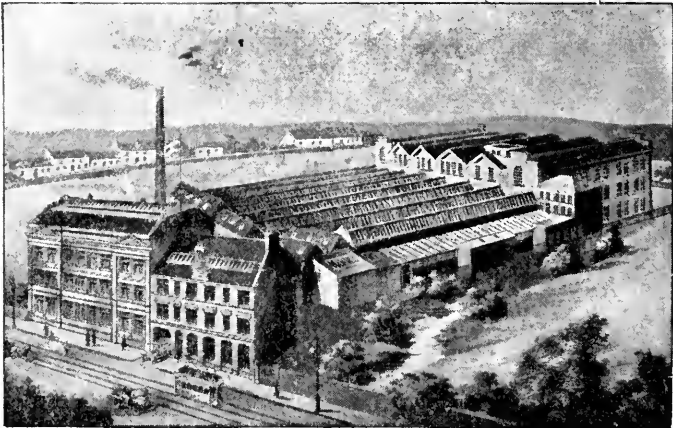
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1880	£35,113	1905	£446,234
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1890	£165,148	1915	£796,955
1895	£273,543				

SALES for Three Years ended December, 1918 ... £885,653.

For Year Ended June, 1919.

Sales...	£440,468
Capital	£187,727
Expended on Property, Machinery, and Fixtures	£80,331
Depreciation on Property, Machinery, and Fixtures	£35,345
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Dividend on Purchases	£26,518
Dividend on Wages	£1,296

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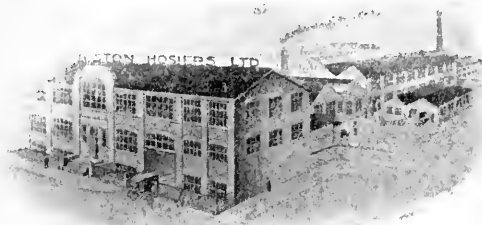
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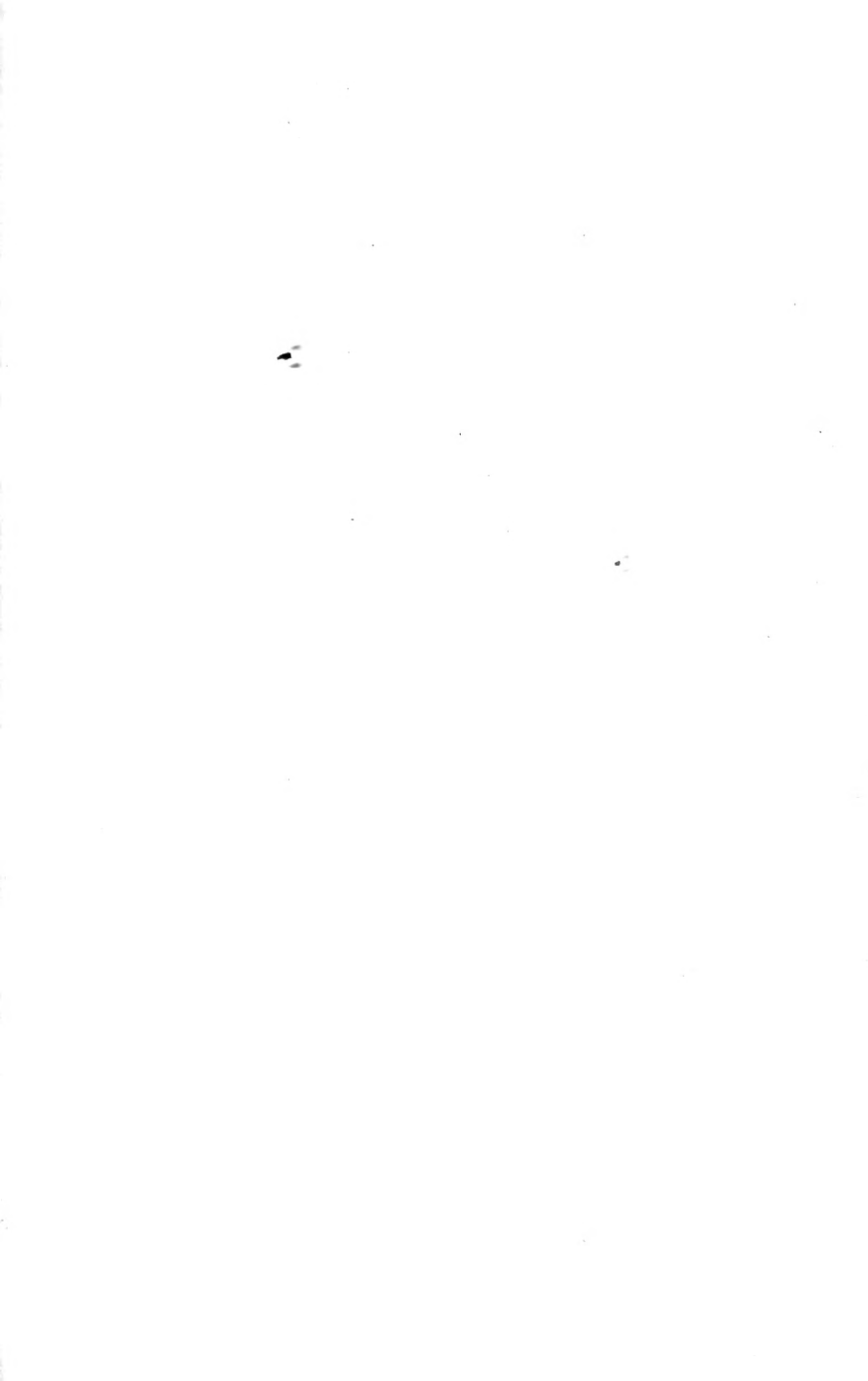
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Co-operative Congress
Report

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